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3 MAR ARAB LEAGUE COUNCIL MEETING PROPOSED

NC271815 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1730 GMT 27 Feb 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 27 February--Mustafa Ya'qub, the YAR ambassador to the Arab League, has announced that his country has proposed convening the emergency meeting of the Arab League Council on Saturday.

The YAR has officially requested this meeting to discuss the situation between the two Yemens and the attacks of the regime in Aden on the southern border of the YAR.

SYRIA, IRAQ APPEAL TO YAR, PDRY TO STOP FIGHTING

JN271948 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1816 GMT 27 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 27 February--Iraq and Syria have appealed to the YAR and PDRY Governments to immediately stop the fighting between them and to withdraw their forces behind their respective borders.

In a joint declaration issued in the Syrian and Iraqi capitals this evening, the Syrian and Iraqi Governments called on the governments of the two Yemens to use the principles of Arab brotherhood and ethics in solving differences between them, to stop the fighting and to avoid further bloodshed.

The following is the text of the joint declaration:

With deep sorrow and pain, the governments of the Syrian Arab Republic and the Iraqi Republic have received the news of the continuing fighting on the border between the YAR and the PDRY.

The fighting which is going on between brothers is squandering the Arab nation's capabilities and strength and is a peripheral battle from which only the enemies can benefit. This is happening at a time when we are in dire need of mobilizing these capabilities, closing ranks, and unifying opinion to confront the onslaught of imperialism and Zionism which are escalating and intensifying their conspiracies to achieve their objectives in the Arab homeland. Imperialism and Zionism are pinning their highest hopes on creating a crack in Arab ranks and seeing Arab efforts being squandered.

Proceeding from this, the Syrian and Iraqi Governments state that they cannot stand by any side whose forces cross another side's borders. Therefore, they appeal to the governments of the two Yemens to immediately stop fighting, to withdraw their forces behind their respective borders, and to use the principles of Arab brotherhood and ethics in solving the differences between them. They should allow themselves to be assisted in this task by the Arab League Charter, by the appeal of the brother Arabs to stop fighting and avoid bloodshed, and by letting wisdom prevail.

By addressing this appeal to the brothers in the two parts of Yemen, the Syrian and Iraqi Governments are motivated by the sincere and genuine hope that their appeal will be received positively and that fighting will be stopped immediately.

In order to contribute to achieving this objective and to enable the two parties to tackle and find solutions to the differences between them in a spirit of brotherhood and neighborliness, the Syrian and Iraqi Governments have decided to send two envoys to the two fraternal governments to help in the process of appeasement and narrowing differences in viewpoints in the interests of the peoples of the two Yemens and of the entire Arab nation.

PLO OFFICIAL DISCUSSES IRANIAN REVOLUTION, CAMP DAVID

JN271202 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 27 Feb 79 p 11 JN

[By Nasr al-Majali and Fernando Francis]

[Text] Tehran--Head of the PLO office in Iran Hani al-Hasan has declared that the PLO supported the Iranian revolution long before its victory. He said although many people thought that the Palestinian support was a gamble, we realized from the beginning that the victory of the Iranian revolution was certain and that this would lead to important strategic changes in the Middle East area.

Al-Hasan said that hostility to Zionism and support for the Palestinian people occupy a prominent place in the Iranian revolution's program. Furthermore, the Iranian revolution has attracted the masses and mobilized them against Zionism. Al-Hasan said that Khomeyni's revolution regards the liberation of Jerusalem as a religious and moral goal. Al-Hasan explained that the Iranian revolution has established a belt around occupied Palestine. This belt will play an important role in destroying Israel if it is supported by a basic change in Turkey, which is inevitably coming. Hani Al-Hasan, who is keeping his post as Yasir 'Arafat's political adviser, said that the talks between the Palestinian delegation under Abu 'Ammar and the Iranian revolution side under Ayatollah Khomeyni were successful. Al-Hasan said: The dialog was one between two revolutions. We are now living the phase of building the unified strategic outlook to the future.

Asked about the opening of the PLO office in Tehran in the place of the Israeli Embassy and why the office was called the embassy of Palestine, Al-Hasan said: In the forties, the Zionists entered the international, trade union and other organizations while the Palestinians left them. However, in the seventies, it is the Palestinians who are entering and the Israelis who are leaving. The best evidence of this is what happened in Tehran, where the Israeli flag was lowered and the Palestinian flag was raised. You have seen how the Iranian masses put up the name of the embassy in Palestine in place of the embassy of Israel. Therefore, naming the PLO office as an embassy came as a result of the desire and insistence of the Iranian masses. Who knows? This development might be a prelude to forming a Palestinian government with embassies all over the world. Hani al-Hasan was talking from his office in the Iranian prime minister's premises since the PLO office was under repair.

Asked about the PLO relations with the Iranian left and the People's Sacrifice Guerrillas [PSG], Al-Hasan said: We in the PLO do not like to talk in flexible terms. Therefore, we believe that those who toppled the shah are the ones who are most progressive. The ones who attract the sweeping majority of the masses are the ones who represent the masses. Therefore, our assessment as a Palestinian revolution of Imam Khomeyni is an assessment based on extreme respect for him. He is the national leader of Iran who defeated imperialism in one of its strongest bastions. We in the PLO will not allow ourselves to interfere in Iran's domestic affairs or to take sides in a natural struggle which will erupt among numerous political forces with varying strength in Iran. On the contrary, we will establish relations of amity and fraternity with all sides in Iran while taking into consideration that the PLO will not be dragged into the differences between the left and the Iranian Islamic movement. Al-Hasan added: Our office will have enormous tasks in the future because Iran has moved from the ranks of enemies to the ranks of friends. The first initiative of goodwill was that Khomeyni changed the name of the Persian Gulf to the Islamic Gulf. Khomeyni has also said that Iran will not perform the role of policeman in the gulf.

Asked about his assessment of the Iranian revolution, Hani al-Hasan asserted that the aim of the revolution is to build a new society based on Islamic law. Al-Hasan said that by his contact with the revolution leaders, he has learned that they realize the facts of the age. He said it is difficult to discuss these matters further before the issuance of the detailed program which will define the revolution's tasks and its visualization of the future.

Asked about the Jordanian-Palestinian dialog, Al-Hasan said: The Palestine National Council has approved the principle of continuing the dialog with Jordan and working to develop relations with Jordan on the basis of the resolutions of the Rabat and Baghdad summit conferences.

Al-Hasan expressed the belief that Jordan and the PLO will work together very seriously in this fraternal policy to destroy the plots of Camp David. Al-Hasan said that the Jordanian-Palestinian rapprochement will be a strong support against all the liquidationist resolutions and plots and will make our people avert further tragedies.

Speaking about the situation in Turkey, Al-Hasan advised Turkey to break relations with Israel so that Turkey might not witness a new tragedy. He explained: The Muslim people in Turkey will not accept seeing the Israeli flag flying above an embassy in Turkey. Al-Hasan said that no Arab side should support the Ecevit government as long as the Israeli flag continues to fly in Istanbul and as long as Turkey does not break relations with Israel. Asked about the U.S. plan to convene a new Camp David conference, Al-Hasan said: I expect a new tripartite summit to be convened among the United States, Israel and Egypt, after which some sort of agreement will be announced. This will be a theatrical and Carter will achieve a propaganda gain before the U.S. public which will help him in the congressional elections which begin in May. Hani al-Hasan asserted that the PLO is in a race with U.S. policy. He said that on the international political level, Palestinian diplomacy was able to defeat U.S. diplomacy, which resorted to Camp David. Then came the Iranian revolution which created, by its solidarity with the Palestinian revolution, a new formula in the area. This means that any Israeli-Egyptian aggreement will be a vulnerable agreement liable to be thwarted politically and militarily by the forces opposing Camp David. Hani al-Hasan warned that Israel, with the support of the United States, might launch an attack on Jordan, Syria and southern Lebanon to create a new situation capable of coping with the new Iranian-Arab situation. In this connection, Al-Hasan called for mobilizing capabilities on the eastern front with Israel, particularly the Syrian, Jordanian, Iraqi and Palestinian military forces to confront the coming attack. Al-Hasan described the current phase as one of "bone breaking." He said we must prepare for the next war, and glory will be for the gun. Speaking about the recent visit to the area by U.S. Secretary of Defense Harold Brown, Al-Hasan said: The visit did not succeed in several states of the area, including Jordan, since Jordan adopted a courageous stand. Furthermore, the Kuwaiti foreign minister also adopted a courageous stand when he declared that his country will not enter into any military alliances with the United States. Al-Hasan said that after the Iranian revolution, the United States is suffering from the collapse of its first line of defense in the area. Therefore, it will try to build a new line of defense. But it will fail in doing so because this age is the age of the liberation of peoples in the area. Al-Hasan explained that the attempt to establish a new defense alliance will not be supported except by the U.S. agents in Egypt and Israel.

In conclusion, Al-Hasan denounced the policy of alliances and said that the United States must choose between Israel and the area's peoples extending from the borders of the Soviet Union in the east to the Pacific Ocean in the west. The PLO office in Tehran began performing its actual tasks after repairing the embassy building burned by the Iranian masses during their Islamic revolution. It is worth mentioning that the street on which the PLO office building is located has been named Palestine Street.

BAHRAIN

FINANCE MINISTER RETURNS FROM SAUDI ARABIA, MAKES STATEMENT

JN271921 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1855 GMT 27 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Manama, 27 February--Ibrahim 'Abd al-Karim, Bahraini minister of finance and national economy, returned here this evening from Saudi Arabia after leading the Bahraini delegation to the 2-day meetings of the Arab Economic and Social Council which opened there yesterday.

In a statement to the GULF NEWS AGENCY on his arrival, the minister said that during these meetings several topics were discussed, the most important of which was the draft of the unified Arab investment agreement. He added that the conference approved the basic principles of this agreement, which will facilitate the flow of Arab investment money inside the Arab homeland.

He added that the council discussed drafting a new agreement for trade among the Arab states in light of the economic developments which have taken place in the region during the past two decades.

Concluding his statement, the minister said that the conferees also discussed implementing the inter-Arab transit trasnport agreement, which was previously approved by Bahrain.

KUWAIT

OIL MINISTER SAYS OIL PRICES WILL BE REVIEWED MONTHLY

JN271204 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1320 GMT 27 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Kuwait, 27 February--Kuwaiti Oil Minister 'Ali al-Khalifah as-Sabah said that the oil price increase announced by Kuwait today is not related to the seasonal increases in oil prices which were agreed upon during the latest OPEC meeting.

He declared in a press conference that Kuwait will review its oil prices monthly according to the conditions of the world oil market.

It is to be recalled that Kuwait announced an increase of $1.20 in the price of a barrel of oil as of this month.

The Kuwaiti minister said that the aim of this increase is to share with the foreign companies the enormous profits they reap in selling Kuwaiti oil at high prices.

'ARAFAT ARRIVES FOR TALKS 27 FEBRUARY

JN280604 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0500 GMT 28 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar, PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, arrived in Kuwait from Damascus last night for talks with senior Kuwaiti officials on the latest developments in the current situation in the region.

'Arafat Departure

JN281059 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1046 GMT 28 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Kuwait, 28 February--PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and the delegation accompanying him left Kuwait for Saudi Arabia this morning. 'Afafat had arrived in Kuwait yesterday evening on a short visit during which he met with the ruler of Kuwait, Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah.

SAUDI ARABIA

CABINET REVIEWS YEMENI CONFLICT, OIL PRICES

LD272014 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1845 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Riyadh--The Cabinet met at 1900 this evening at the royal court at Al-Ma'dhar Palace. The meeting was chaired by His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince and deputy prime minister. The meeting ended at 2130.

Minister of Information Dr Muhammad 'Abduh Yamani told an SNA correspondent after the meeting that the Caninet reviewed at the beginning of its meeting the current situation of the conflict between the YAR and the PDRY. The Cabinet expressed its concern at the deterioration of the situation between the two fraternal countries. It also expressed its satisfaction with the support which the brothers in the Arab countries have expressed for the steps proposed by the kingdom to contain the present conflict and extinguish the flames of sedition. The minister said that the Cabinet reviewed the precautions which the kingdom should adopt to meet these developments. The Cabinet impressed on the brothers the need to stop the armed conflict and resort to objective and constructive dialog, observing self-restraint and allowing wisdom to prevail.

Dr Muhammad 'Abduh Yamani said that the Cabinet discussed the situation of oil prices in the world markets and studied with care the measures taken by foreign oil companies for an abnormal increase in oil prices in a manner inconsistent with OPEC's decision.

His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz explained that in accordance with the guidance of His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and proceeding from its responsibility and policy directed toward the stability of the world economy, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has taken a decision to maintain its oil prices at the rate decided upon by the recent OPEC conference in Abu Dhabi until next month's meeting of the OPEC conference. It will then define its stance, following full consultations with the other OPEC countries, in line with the national interest.

Prince Fahd said: We sincerely wished to continue in our declared and known policy which is aimed at preventing the world from going through any economic upheavals. But what pains us is the fact that certain oil companies should exploit the situation of oil shortages in the world market in order to obtain exhorbitant and unbelievable profits, whose victims are both the consumer in the world and the owner by right in the producing countries.

AL-FAYSAL CALLS FOR ARAB LEAGUE COUNCIL SESSION ON YEMEN

LD280852 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 0710 GMT 28 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Jidda--His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, the foreign minister, has stressed the need to hold as soon as possible the proposed emergency meeting of the Arab League Council to debate the deteriorating situation between the two parts of Yemen. In an interview with AN-NADWAH published today, his royal highness said that the kingdom considers the preparations for this proposed meeting in light of the considerations which are bound to assure its success so as to be a fruitful and beneficial one. Also, it does not object to the meeting being held in any Arab capital acceptable to both North and South Yemen.

His royal highness stressed that the actual means of creating a calm atmosphere will only be realized by accepting the four suggestions put forward in yesterday's statement of the Royal Court. He stated that these suggestions are the practical constructive means and the grounds to make a success of the reconciliation efforts between the two countries. His royal highness explained that yesterday's statement is not only an expression of the kingdom's viewpoint but is also an expression of the genuine and sincere Arab stand which is committed to the Arab League Charter and stems from our Arab Islamic faith and Arab values. The foreign minister welcomed the support of the Arab brethren by influencing the two sides of the dispute to accept the four points proposed by the kingdom in order to ward off all dangers surrounding the region.

MILITARY PERSONNEL ORDERED TO REPORT TO UNITS

LD280820 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 0610 GMT 28 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Riyadh--The Ministry of Defense and Aviation has summoned all officers, warrant officers and soldiers on leave to immediately rejoin their units because of the current conditions.

This has come in a statement issued today by the Ministry of Defence and Aviation. Here follows the text of the statement:

In view of the current conditions the Ministry of Defense and Aviation orders all officers, warrant officers and soldiers on leave to immediately rejoin their units as soon as they hear this statement.

BAHRAINI, KUWAITI FOREIGN MINISTERS, OMANI OFFICIAL ARRIVE

LD281046 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 0831 GMT 28 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Riyadh--Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah, Bahraini foreign minister, arrived in Riyadh at 1030 this morning. Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad as-Sabah, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister, also arrived at 1100 this morning on a visit to the kingdom. His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, Saudi foreign minister, and a number of officials were there to welcome them at the airport.

Yusuf 'Alawi, under secretary in the Foreign Ministry of the Sultanate of Oman, also arrived this morning on a visit to the Kingdom. He was met at the airport by 'Abd al-'Aziz at-Thunayyan, under secretary in the Saudi Foreign Ministry.

Ministers' Meeting

LD281048 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 0940 GMT 28 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Riyadh--A tripartite meeting was held at noon today between His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, Saudi foreign minister, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad as-Sabah, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah, Bahraini foreign minister, at the foreign minister's house in Riyadh.

Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz at-Thunayyan, under secretary in the Saudi Foreign Ministry, also held a meeting today with Yusuf 'Alawi, under secretary in the Foreign Minister of the Sultanate of Oman, at the Intercontinental Hotel in Riyadh.

JOINT STATEMENT ISSUED ON GREEK PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT

LD271630 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1150 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Text] A joint statement on the visit of His Excellency Konstandinos Karamanlis, prime minister of Greece, to the kingdom and his talks with His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince and deputy prime minister, has been issued. Here is the text:

At the invitation of His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi crown prince and deputy prime minister, His Excellency Konstandinos Karamanlis, of Greece, paid an official visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia from 25 February to 27 February.

His Excellency Konstandinos Karamanlis, prime minister of Greece, paid his respects to His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and held talks with His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince and deputy prime minister.

Those who participated in the talks on the Saudi side were His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince and deputy prime minister; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdullah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister and commander of the National Guard; His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, minister of defense and aviation and inspector general; His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister; Dr Rashad Far'awn, his majesty's private adviser; Dr Ghazi al-Qusaybi, minister of industry and electricity; Shaykh 'Abd ar-Rahman Mansuri, under secretary for political affairs in the Foreign Ministry, and Fawzi Shabkash, director of the western department in the Foreign Ministry.

On the Greek side the following took part: Foreign Minister Yeoryios Rallis; commerce minister Yeoryios Panayiotopoulos; Ambassador Yiannis Dzounis, director general of the Political Affairs Department in the Greek Foreign Ministry; Ambassador Petros Molivdhitis, director general of the prime minister's office; Ambassador Mikhail Konakis, director of the Fourth Political Department; Greek Ambassador to the Kingdom Ioannis (Kassis); Ambassador Ioannis Grighoriadhis, chief of protocol; and Ambassador Dhimitris (Frahgiskos), head of the foreign minister's office.

The two sides held official talks in a cordial atmosphere. They exchanged constructive viewpoints. The talks dealt with Saudi-Greek relations, conditions in the Middle East and in Cyprus, and international topics of mutual interest. The two sides recorded their satisfaction with the growth and development of bilateral relations between Greece and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia [word indistinct] economic cooperation. The two sides devoted special attention to conditions in the Middle East. They agreed on the significance of achieving an early, all-embracing, just peace in the Middle East for the sake of world peace. They stressed that to achieve this peace it was imperative for Israel to withdraw from all Arab territories occupied in 1967, including holy Jerusalem, and that it was imperative for Israel to recognize the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to self-determination. They also agreed that the Palestinian question is the core of the Middle East problem.

Regarding Cyprus, the two sides expressed their support for the independence, sovereignty and unity of Cypriot territory. They agreed that the solution to this problem must be accomplished through a dialog between the two Cypriot communities under the supervision of the UN secretary general.

In the course of their review of African issues, the two sides stressed the need for Africans to have the opportunity to solve their problems by themselves, without foreign interference, and in line with the UN Charter and OAU decisions. The two sides expressed their belief that the visit of the Greek prime minister to Saudi Arabia was a contribution to the development of Saudi-Greek relations.

They also expressed their determination to strengthen friendship relations between Greece and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and to continue to nurture and strengthen bilateral cooperation between the two friendly countries. In this connection, the two sides stressed the importance of exchanges of visits by officials in both countries at ministerial and technical levels. They also agreed to develop cultural relations between the two countries. The Greek prime minister expressed the willingness of his government to offer a number of scholarship grants for Saudi students.

Springing for the traditional friendship relations linking Greece with the Arab world the Greek prime minister informed his Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz that his government has given over some land in Athens to be used by Muslims to build an Islamic center and a mosque on it. His royal highness the crown prince expressed his appreciation for this initiative by the Greek Government.

His Excellency Konstandinos Karamanlis, prime minister of Greece, expressed his gratitude for the generous hospitality which he and member of the accompanying delegation were accorded during the visit to the kingdom. His excellency extended an official invitation to His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz to visit Greece. His royal highness expressed his appreciation for the invitation and accepted it, and the date of this visit is to be fixed later on through diplomatic channels.

Greek Minister's Departure

LD271100 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1025 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Riyadh--Greek Prime Minister Konstandinos Karamanlis left Riyadh for Damascus this morning following a 3-day visit to the kingdom.

He was seen off by His Royal Highness Amid Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince and deputy prime minister, princess, ministers and high-ranking military and public officials.

UAE

PDRY MINISTERS ARRIVE IN ABU DHABI WITH MESSAGE

JN271544 Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1315 GMT 27 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 27 February--PDRY Planning Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Wali arrived here at noon today carrying a written message to UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan from 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, chairman of the Presidium of the PDRY People's Supreme Council. The PDRY planning minister will also visit Kuwait and Iraq to deliver similar messages to the leaders of these two countries.

Arriving on the same plane was Mahmud 'Ushaysh, PDRY communication minister, who is on his way to Syria, Jordan and Lebanon to deliver messages to the leaders of these two countries and to Yasir 'Arafat, Chairman of the PLO Executive Committee. Also on the same plane was Nasr Nasir, PDRY minister of labor and civil service, who is on his way to Tunisia, Algeria and Sudan to deliver similar messages to the leaders of these countries. Sa'id ad-Darmaki, chairman of protocol, received the guests.

'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Wali told the EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY that the message he is carrying to the UAE president deals with the recent developments involving the two parts of Yemen. The message also stresses the importance of Arab solidarity to confront the challenges facing the Arab nation under the critical and fateful conditions through which the Arab nation is passing. The message also stresses the importance of strengthening the good relations between the UAE and the PDRY. He further said: During my current tour I will explain the nature of the political and psychological developments and background of the current events involving the two parts of Yemen. He welcomed mediation efforts by Arab brothers to eliminate all tension and to establish normal relations so that the progress, stability and security of the peoples of the area can be insured.

YEMEN--PDRY

FOREIGN MINISTRY CONDEMNS YAR 'AGGRESSION'

LD271950 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD/EA

[Text] A responsible source in the Foreign Ministry of the PDRY has made the following statement:

The Government of People's Democratic Republic of Yemen has clarified its attitude on developments in the Yemeni arena and its persistent efforts to avert internecine strife and a further deterioration of the situation, in view of the provocations leading to the detonation of war. The San'a' regime, however, has persisted in stirring up strife and in inciting its forces to engage in aggressive military actions against our progressive nationalist regime. It has been deploying its military forces in border areas since 23 February and has not to date ceased its savage shelling of peaceful villages, indifferent to the fact that its reckless adventures are causing destruction and ruin and death among the sons of our Yemeni people--men, women, old men and children.

Our armed forces, the people's militia and the masses of our Yemeni people are confronting this perfidious aggressive plot hatched by the reactionary regime in San'a' to gratify the designs of the reactionaries and imperialists.

The San'a' rulers' warmongering has not ceased since the martyrdom of President Lt Col Ibrahim al-Hamdi. It continued with the murder of President al-Ghashmi, and then they closed the borders on land, sea and air to prevent the sons of Yemeni people from contacting each other--this in order to deepen separation and isolation between the sons of the single Yemeni people. And then they declared war.

Our government exercised and still exercises self-control, reason and logic. It has always striven to keep our people and our Yemeni homeland free from the dangers of war and infighting. It has called for a constructive dialog and for the solution of all differences between the two parts of Yemen by peaceful means, and for the preservation of stability and peace. It has presented many constructive proposals in this respect.

The PDRY, as everybody knows, responds to the mediations of Arab brothers in all circumstances. It has called for Yemeni unity and today it still stresses its deep commitment to the fulfillment of immediate Yemeni unity. It adheres to the Cairo agreement and to the Tripoli statement, and rejects the reality of a partition that enables enemies to provoke continuous tension between the sons of the single Yemeni people. It has also constantly warned of the consequendes of a reckless plunge into war between the sons of Yemen. It has always stressed that in the northern part of the Yemeni homeland the masses of our Yemeni people are waging a struggle, led by the Democratic National Front, against the existing regime. The PDRY Government again expresses its true response to any bilateral fraternal Arab call, or through the Arab League, to avert war between the two parts and create stability and peace all over the area.

The PDRY Government has continuously stressed its strong desire to solve the differences between the two parts of Yemen and to begin to forge its unity, which will lead to stability in the area and will reinforce the pan-Arab struggle and contribute to its just victory.

So that stability and peace may prevail in the Yemen region, the gulf and the Arabian Peninsula, it stresses its deep respect for the Arab League Charter and its pursuit of a clear policy of peace aimed at consolidating stability, peace and progress among the peoples and states of the region, and one that is based on the principles of peaceful coexistence, mutual respect for independence, national sovereignty and noninterference in domestic affairs.

The PDRY Government is concerned about the lives of the sons of our Yemeni people and the gains of the glorious 26 September and 14 October Revolutions. It is anxious to avoid the escalation of the aggressive war sparked off by the ruling regime in San'a'. It will continue its defence of the Yemeni homeland and its independence. It calls on all the masses of our Yemeni people in the northern and southern parts of Yemen to be constantly vigilant and confront this aggressive conspiracy hatched by reactionary and imperialist circles and implemented by the agent San'a' regime, and thus achieve more victories in defense of the Yemeni revolution, the achievement of Yemeni unity and construction of a happy free Yemeni society.

YEMEN--YAR

FOREIGN MINISTRY STATEMENT ON SITUATION, REFERENDUM PROMISED

JN272131 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 2020 GMT 27 Feb 79 JN

[YAR Foreign Ministry statement issued on 27 February]

[Text] The repeated aggressions against the YAR by the regular forces and popular militias of the ruling regime in Aden are nothing but a new link in a chain of treacherous aggression exported by the ruling clique in Aden to our people in the north of the homeland. These aggressions are in implementation of the scheme previously prepared and approved at the meetings of the non-Yemeni socialist party.

The hireling regime in Aden, while pretending to want Yemeni unity and calling for it, intends to further delude the local, Arab and world public opinion regarding its nature and the reality of the serious aims it seeks to achieve. The danger of these aims is not confined to the Yemeni territory and its Arabism alone, but constitutes a primary danger to the Arabism of the region and its independent pan-Arab and neutral presence. Our people throughout Yemen do not forget that the present regime in Aden is now carrying out a colonialist scheme aimed at disrupting the unity of the Yemeni people. It has, therefore, created a separatist entity and is conspiring against the unionist liberation struggle of our people. It has also created a state that hides behind bright slogans based on oppression, injustice and persecution. The YAR supports the struggle of our people in the south based on the principles of its immortal 26 September revolution. The YAR is doing this not to establish separatist rule concerned with sabotage and concocting plots, but to achieve what the people aspire for 9-t live free, happy and secure as well as to achieve prosperity and progress. However, there is the ruling clique in Aden which obstructs everything that might lead to such unity. Whenever the YAR exerted efforts to achieve this noble aim and achieve prosperity for our people through development programs, the Aden clique faced these attempts with sabotage and by planting mines, treatening the people, and killing women, children and old people.

The YAR views the unity of Yemen as a great wish that will achieve well-being and happiness for our people. Its enlightened leadership under brother Lt Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and its prudent government will not spare any effort to achieve that great objective, but not through blood, wounds, massing troops and using the ugliest methods of treachery. What the YAR wants is achieved through amity as well as national and pan-Arab loyalty and adherence to Arab and Islamic ideals and values. As a sincere expression of our people's desire, the YAR reaffirms its strong awareness of the need to achieve the aspirations of our people in the two parts of Yemen--people who want territorial unity and independence. It will, therefore, resort to the judgment of the people in a free referendum to elect their representatives and leadership for the realization of their unity. This stand of our national government stems from its belief in our people's struggling masses, who know their real national and pan-Arab interests. These people are larger than all outbiddings and slogans the hireling authority in Aden constantly makes to delude and deceive the Yemeni people and Arab and world public opinion.

The hireling regime in Aden must prove its good intentions by withdrawing all its aggressive forces from YAR territory. On our part, we do not need to provide any new evidence to prove our good intentions, especially since the YAR has hastened to call for an urgent meeting of the Arab League to look into the aggression. It has also demanded the quick formation of a military committee from the Arab League's Permanent Military Secretariat to investigate the aggressive acts and determine the side that started and is still continuing this aggression. The YAR, while praising the stands of the fraternal Arab states which have condemned and denounced the aggression, welcomes Arab initiatives aimed at putting an end to the continued aggression and sabotage and at halting the bloodshed of the Yemeni people. Their blood should be saved to serve the supreme Arab causes, the foremost of which is the cause of Palestine. We are confident that all the sons of our people throughout the two parts of Yemen and all their factions in every valley, mountain and plain as well as our brave armed forces and proud popular forces will all lie in wait for the tyrants and hirelings. They will also courageously defend the unity of Yemen. The revolutionaries and sons of the 26 September revolution will spare no effort to achieve victory and unity.

KHALIL HANDS LETTERS TO VANCE ON OFFICIAL VIEWS

NC280748 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0649 GMT 28 Feb 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 28 February--AL-AHRAM reports today that Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil has handed U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance letters expressing Egypt's views on a number of important questions. These were:

1. A letter on the measures which Israel must adopt in order to improve the climate in the West Bank and Gaza without waiting for autonomy, as previously discussed at Camp David. These measures include the release of political prisoners, allowing political activity, transferring the Israeli military command outside the cities and permitting the return of some family members who left after the 1967 war.

2. A letter putting on record Egypt's rejection of the ideas which were published as representing Israeli thinking on the jurisdictions of self-government in the West Bank and Gaza, which was later known as the Eliyahu ben-El'azar report presented to the Israeli Cabinet.

3. A letter on the settlements in the West Bank and Gaza; in this letter the U.S. Government is asked to inform Egypt of the U.S. Government steps taken on this issue, in view of Egypt's opposition to the establishment and expansion of these settlements, and to put on record Egypt's position that the Israeli actions are unlawful and do not create a suitable atmosphere for negotiations and peace.

KHALIL STATEMENT TO AL-AHRAM ON CAMP DAVID TALKS

NC280855 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0730 GMT 28 Feb 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 28 February--Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil has confirmed that Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan suggested the presence of Menahem Begin at Camp David in order to conclude the negotiations on the Middle East question. This was done because Dayan had no authority and repeatedly had to refer to his prime minister whereas the Egyptian delegation was fully authorized by President as-Sadat to adopt basic resolutions in line with Egyptian policy.

In a statement to AL-AHRAM upon his return yesterday, the prime minister said that Moshe Dayan contacted Menahem Begin prior to agreeing to the speech which U.S. President Carter personally read to the world and which was drafted with the approval of the United States, Egypt and Israel.

AS-SADAT ALEXANDRIA SYNDICATES SPEECH 27 FEB

NC271600 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1130 GMT 27 Feb 79 NC

[Text] Alexandria, 26 February--This morning President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat met with the representatives of professional syndicates in Alexandria. President as-Sadat delivered a speech in which he said: In the name of God, it pleases me to meet with you today on my first working visit to Alexandria following the formation of the National Democratic Party. My invitation to you today is indeed a link in the chain which we must form. In other words, there is a family in every governorate and the Egyptian family comprises all these families. Therefore, my discourse today is not about the National Democratic Party but about the Egyptian family in the Alexandria family.

President as-Sadat added: We all know that the individual is the nucleus of the family. A family is judged as good or bad from the behavior of its members, from their relations with each other, their sense of belonging to this family and their confrontation of anyone who tries to undermine it. The same thing applies to greater Egypt, which consists of several governorates. You should first of all form the Alexandria family. You should form a family in every governorate. The greater Egyptian family consists of all these families.

President as-Sadat went on to say: Therefore, the question is not that of the National Democratic Party. As you have heard me say several times and I say now, my position as head of the Egyptian family takes precedence over my position as president of the republic or as leader of the majority party or any other authority. This is a source of pride for me. I am not speaking about those who have severed their roots with their country and who have become renegades. I am speaking about the ordinary peasants and the good people who form 99.9 percent of our people. Tendentious doctrines have been able to attract only 0.1 percent who have severed their roots with their country.

President as-Sadat added: Before I call for anything or for any party organizations and before I call for any building or any effort or progress, we must make a proper start, which is the building of the Egyptian family.

President as-Sadat reviewed the domestic situation before and after the 23 July revolution. He said: Perhaps the oldtimers among you have lived through these periods and the youth have read about them. Concepts have been distorted and are still being distorted even now.

The president went on to say: For example, today I read the newspaper AL-AKHBAR. I strongly denounce what the chief editor of this newspaper has written. He thought he would be serving me when he tried to explain to the people why I spoke on the telephone with the shah once again. I stand before you and denounce such writing. Why? Why should we be scared off just because a group of people in Cairo whom I call effendis are trying to cause trouble and to strike at all our ideals. What is this nonsense? Egypt is Egypt. Yes, I spoke with the shah and received him here. I spoke with him another time and invited him to visit Egypt. This is Egypt. Where is chivalry, brotherhood, loyalty and ideals if we simply disavow a person in his ordeal as others have done? Also, this person stood by us in our ordeal. The president said: I strongly denounce such writing. Regrettably, this is freedom of the press. However, I am saying this so that those there may hear it and everybody may hear it. I refuse to be called to account for this because this is part of the ideals of the people.

President as-Sadat said: This man, the shah of Iran, stood by us in our ordeal and we must stand by him in his ordeal. This does not in any way mean that we are against the revolution in Iran. No one can upstage us in being revolutionary. I did not do like Al-Asad, who rushed to visit the shah and there imposed himself on the shah by asking aid from him. Al-Asad, who is standing on shaky legs these days, rushed to recognize Khomeyni in order to prove to his people that he is revolutionary. I think all of us know that revolutionism started from here and not from anywhere else. No one can upstage us. However, I will not do like Al-Asad who begged the shah to let him visit Iran in 1975. As you know, Al-Asad was running and panting behind me. I visited Yugoslavia and Romania. He also visited the two countries. I visited the shah, and he visited the shah. If you go back to the newspapers of those days, you will find this. He behaved like a child. And now he wants to prove to his people that he is revolutionary.

President as-Sadat said: Egypt does not try to prove to anyone that it is revolutionary. Egypt is convinced of what it is doing. This is because what we are doing is in accordance with our morals and in the interest of our people and land. I do not care about abroad. You saw that in a showdown with a superpower, I told 17,000 people to leave within a week. They left because I do not accept and will not accept at all that anyone should imagine that he has a special position with us or that he has any value more than the value of true friendship. He extends his hand one time; we extend it 10 times. He antagonizes us one time; we antagonize him 100 times.

President as-Sadat went on to say: By God, I really denounce what was written today. It means we are being called upon to defend ourselves because we want to meet the shah. I am talking about the shah of Iran, whom you have read and heard about. There was one time when our cotton was not sold and he loaned us money. After the battle I had only a 15-day stock of petroleum for the armed forces and the people. That was a serious situation because if something had happened, the armed forces would have consumed that quantity in 1 day or half a day. That quantity was not enough for the armed forces and the country. When I say the country, the simplest way to know the importance of petroleum is the loaf of bread which is baked on diesel oil. In other words, there would have been no bread if something had happened.

President as-Sadat added: When I contacted the shah, the man not only responded but he ordered tankers which had sailed from Iran to various destinations in Europe to change their course and sail for Alexandria because As-Sadat and Egypt were in dire need of petroleum. He immediately sent us 600,000 tons of petroleum and said: Please come and conclude contracts with us for the remaining quantities you want. It was only then that our Arab brothers became aware. Tankers from Iran brought us 600,000 tons of petroleum which was on its way to other customers. This was the shah's attitude toward us. When we could not sell our cotton, the shah gave us a loan and the petroleum, which is also a loan.

You will remember that when I was in Iran, the shah told me that they were producing buses there. I told him that I had a bus crisis and we arranged for a loan from him. According to this loan, he gave us 300 Mercedes buses. We obtained the buses in accordance with sound legal measures applying to loans. We got no grants and no aid from anybody to say that we owe them something. No. We got loans and all I spoke to you about is loans because we have our prestige and we set limits to everything.

The president added: The man stood with us during our tribulation. He stood with us before, during and after the battle supporting and backing the Arab line. What is the reason for the rush then [to recognize the new Iranian regime]? Should I run like Hafiz al-Asad did or like Al-Qadhdhafi, the mad boy on our western border, did? Egypt will never do so. Egypt is Egypt and it does not need the defense of anybody. I will never hesitate to make a decision as long as it conforms with the Egyptian roots and nobility, regardless of the consequences. But a rush would be unkind indeed. Our position has been distorted by a few gentlemen in Cairo, who do not count more than 0.1 percent as you know, and who say: On what basis does he invite the shah and so forth?

President as-Sadat went on: I do not like unethical actions and I always say that ethics are indivisible. There are some in the world who say that there are no ethics in politics. But I say no. Ethics are indivisible because a man of ethics will apply these ethics in his policies at home and in his dealings; a person with no ethics will apply no ethics in policies, at home or anywhere.

We can never say that a person who wants to be outstanding in politics must be unethical in certain matters and ethical in others. I am sorry. Ethics are indivisible and this is what I believe. There has been a distortion. Do we accept this distortion? Are we prepared to act like the gentlemen in Cairo who say what they are saying and who believe that this a political situation shaking the entire world.

The president further said: Well, the revolution in Iran is the property of the people of Iran and the people of Iran are free. We have recognized their government and we are waiting for the referendum. Relations exist between us. Our ambassador there called on the Iranian foreign minister. I am announcing this for the first time. Our ambassador spoke to the minister about Egypt's invitation to the shah. The ambassador communicated with me the day before yesterday. What I communicated to the ambassador is what I will tell you now. I told him to say the following to the foreign minister: Do you really claim that Egypt is the leader of the Islamic world and yet you still do not want it to invite the shah? The simplest thing in what you are advocating--Islam--is that we should stand with the brothers in difficult times. This man stood with us in our time of need and we are standing with him in his difficult times. However, we are not against Iran's revolution and we will not allow anybody to work against the will of the people of Iran because we do not interfere in the affairs of others, and we do not want anybody to interfere in our affairs. This is what I told him.

The president went on: Chivalry, ethics and advocates of Islam do not reject this. Nobody who advocates Islam can forget that rewarding loyalty and safeguarding values are its primary pillars. I instructed the ambassador to tell the foreign minister that these are the ethics of Egypt and that this talk will be published because they are recording it. I told the ambassador: Tell him that these are the ethics of Egypt and that we fear nothing.

President as-Sadat then said: There are attempts to distort the whole issue against us. Democracy was distorted before 23 July 1952 and I do not have to talk to you about this. All of us know that the 28 February [1923] declaration gave us incomplete independence by virtue of the reservations it included and the question of minorities and other issues it referred to. The British came out with this declaration to silence the 1919 revolution. The leaders stupidly grabbed at it and then used it to serve their evil intentions. The 1919 revolution and the 'Arabi revolution earlier demanded two main things: democracy for the people and the right of the Egyptian officers and not only the Circassians to rise to higher ranks in the armed forces. 'Arabi demanded democracy, freedom, parliament and a constitution for the people and we also demanded that the Egyptian officers should replace the Circassian officers in the armed forces.

The president then said: All of us know that the 1919 revolution broke because of the presence of an imperialist--Britain. The country rose to get rid of the imperialist. At the same time, there was a king and a foreign and corrupt royal family in the country. The 1919 revolution broke out to achieve these two aims. The king tricked the leaders by the 1923 constitution, which he said he granted on the basis of these two aims. The leaders accepted the constitution instead of remaining loyal to the country's mission and to the aims of the 1919 and the 'Arabi revolutions which sought to get rid of the imperialist and all his influence in Egypt, set up democracy and prepare a constitution for this people in accordance with the aims of the 1919 and of the 'Arabi revolution.

President as-Sadat added: The leaders divided the whole operation. They claimed that the constitution provided for an independent state. They said that the 28 February declaration ended the state's battle with Britain. The result was that they started a struggle among themselves.

What is really regrettable and disgraceful is that they were tricking the people and misleading them. As I have already said, some gentlemen believe that this can happen again in our country. No, I am sorry. The leaders misled the people and the issue became one of Sa'd and 'Adli and not of independence.

It became an issue of Sa'd and 'Adli, An-Nahhas and 'Abd al-Hadi or An-Naqrashi and Makram. They distorted the concepts throughout the country and started a struggle among themselves when independence remained incomplete because of the 28 February declaration and the constitution remained incomplete because of the presence of the king who did not permit its application.

The president went on: Their struggle was to serve personal objectives. One of the skeletons, the former secretary of the WAFD Party, which are supposed to be in the museum, came out and formed a party. You were all present and lived through the pre-23 July epoch and what I say is nothing new.

The president also said: When the 23 July revolution took place, this blatant example was the choice morsel of the opportunist politicians. This state of affairs prompted us to purge political life and establish democracy in Egypt. A bloody revolution would have been inevitable had the 23 July revolution not taken place at that time and after the January 1952 fire in Cairo. We carried out the 23 July revolution to avert the bloody revolution. However, many concepts were also distorted after the 23 July revolution and until the British evacuation from Egypt was completed in 1956. Undoubtedly, the people suffered but their suffering ended with the evacuation of the British. I was one of the persons who carried out this revolution. I personally proclaimed the revolution on the morning of 23 July. I was here in Alexandria on 26 July when I ousted the king on behalf of all my brothers. I was waiting here for 24 hours after I handed the warning to 'Ali Mahir to convey to the king. I was here when all these operations followed successively and we finished everything on 26 July.

President as-Sadat further said: There were some mistakes after the 23 July revolution, undoubtedly, but no just man can deny that the 23 July revolution liberated the Egyptian will for the first time in thousands of years at the hands of an Egyptian ruler.

I am talking about this achievement and will say nothing more. I will not talk about the nationalization of the Suez Canal, the Arab thinking and all that was accomplished afterward. I will only deal with one thing--the Egyptian will. For 2,000 years before the 23 July revolution, Egypt was governed by foreigners and imperialists but it did not dissolve. We appointed the first Egyptian ruler in 1953. He was Muhammad Najib but 'Abd an-Nasir was elected as a ruler in 1956. This was a sign of the liberation of the Egyptian will. The ruler was no longer a foreigner and nobody can deny that the credit for this goes to the 23 July revolution.

The president added: The 23 July revolution made mistakes like any other revolution. The French Revolution, for example, made mistakes and suffered setbacks more than once. The 23 July revolution made mistakes. You heard me more than once saying that by virtue of my position, I am responsible for these mistakes because I can rectify them. I was one of those who carried out the revolution. I carried out the revolution, proclaimed it and admitted its mistakes. Regardless of who ordered these mistakes I am responsible before you to rectify them. I actually began the rectification on 15 May 1971.

President as-Sadat went on: Some mistakes have occurred. The gravest mistake of the 23 July revolution was undoubtedly connected with the application of democracy. I reaffirm to you that all the mistakes of democracy in a lifetime are of lesser evil than the mistakes of dictatorship in 1 hour because dictatorship transforms man and creates for him fear and insecurity complexes. These complexes transform man, who is the tool of God Almighty in building this land and who God honored in all religions and made him the goal for which he mobilized all his creatures.

The president also said: Therefore, I say let us search our souls. What has leaped with mankind to make these enormous leaps in inventions, sciences and everything else? Is it not the mind of man? It is the simple man and not the communist system or the democratic system which did this. It is man's talents and capabilities. The great states we see now are great because man there is honored and not attacked. There are the other states around us. Can we see the transformations of man in the regime of the mad boy and the regimes of Syria and Iraq and in many other Arab and non-Arab states in our area? No, they will achieve nothing. Egypt, which has always been the pioneer and the one to start the revolutions, will remain the pioneer. Democracy began here on the land of Egypt.

The president continued: There have been mistakes. Well, I said I am prepared to be legally and officially responsible for them. I will take off this suit and come to you and say: Ask me what you like. By God, there is no error which I did not try to rectify in the best manner after 15 May.

President as-Sadat said that today while we are rebuilding democracy we do not want to return to the old concepts at all--the concepts of Sa'd and 'Adli. We do not want the aim to be the parties. No. We want to start from a sound basis. For this reason I say that I did not invite you here for the sake of the National Democratic Party. Not at all. The party and the fact that I am the leader of the party is a very small part of a big thing or a major fact called Egypt. We are working today and establishing democracy for the sake of Egypt.

President as-Sadat asked: What method will we use to achieve this? He replied: The first method--and so that we will not again be put in a state of disorder--is Egypt and the Egyptian man with his security, dignity, and prosperity and with everything that provides him with a dignified life in order to build for himself and for the future generations and for his country. If we agree on this, what remains for us to do is to apply it and see how to implement this. The role of the parties begins here. The parties should not play their role in the way that the biggest opportunists in the country who established the recent Wafd Party wanted them to play it. I know that he was an opportunist and was building concepts through hatred and bitterness. No. No. This is wrong. The main thing is Egypt.

President as-Sadat added: If we form parties in order to exercise democracy, this is something constitutional and is practiced by the people. But this is not the main thing. The main thing is Egypt, the family, the mother, the responsibility. This is the main thing, and not a party, an individual, a leader or doctorate degrees. The main thing is Egypt, and the aim is Egypt.

President as-Sadat said: In embarking on this new chapter in our lives, we must be clear with ourselves and with our people. If we understand this, then let us organize ourselves and exercise our democracy, which has as its primary aim the Egyptian man, his security, peace, prosperity, creativity and aspirations. This is what I wanted to talk to you about in order to establish the new structure on strong foundation and not on a fake foundation as the one which existed before 23 July. The new structure must not be established in a wrong manner as happened after 23 July.

The dignity of man was disregarded then and no attention was paid to the values of our country. For this reason we were about to enter a horrifying whirlpool. Thank God for having saved us from this and for returning us to our roots, which go back to thousands of years. The first civilization came from this country. The first state the world knew was here on this land, and the first government the world knew was on this land. The whole world recognizes this.

Concluding his speech, President as-Sadat said: I pray God to aid you in the coming stage so that we can first of all be the Alexandria family. The next step would be for you to organize yourselves in order to exercise democracy through parties. However, the main thing first and foremost is to have here in Alexandria a family called the Alexandria family. Unfortunately, some people do not understand the dimensions of the decision to delegate my authority to the governors. This decision is considered a revolution in itself. This is because the governors will no longer have to go back to Cairo to take a decision but can act directly. The governor now has the powers of the president of the republic. You must all sit together and see what is good for your country and for your governorate and what is good for the benefit of the national aims of our big mother, Egypt. This is what I wanted to tell you. I am confident that by returning to our values we will not go astray or be misled as was the case in certain periods in our lives both before and after 23 July.

May God grant you success.

VICE PRESIDENT RECEIVES YAR FOREIGN MINISTER

NC271945 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1825 GMT 27 Feb 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 27 February--Vice President Husni Mubarak received Yahya Hammudi Jamghan, the personal representative of Yemeni President 'Abdallah Salih. Mr Jamghan was accompanied by the Yemeni foreign minister, 'Abdallah al-Asnaj. Both men had arrived in Cairo earlier today.

President as-Sadat will receive the two Yemeni envoys tomorrow. Meanwhile, MENA has learned that Mr Husni Mubarak has sent a message to Saudi King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz concerning the situation in northern Yemen and that he has already received a reply to his message.

AS-SADAT TO DISCUSS INTERNATIONAL AID IN COMING TRIP

LD271317 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 22 Feb 79 p 3 LD

[Musa Sabri article: "The Major Trip"]

[Text] Probably the most important trip President Anwar as-Sadat will make in the near future is that in which he will visit Europe, the United States and Japan in order to reach an agreement on what has now become known as the "Carter plan", which is similar to the Marshall Plan in Europe following World War II.

The Egyptian estimate for this plan is $15 billion, part of which is aid from these countries, part investments by major firms and the third part aid for planning and implementation on a sound economic basis.

The primary accepted basis for this major project is that the shaky economy of the major industrial powers will not stabilize unless these countries contribute to increasing the developing countries' rate of development.

The world economic balance will not become stable as long as this wide gap between the rich countries and the poor countries exists. The peoples whose sufferings are increasing are bound to become inclined to extremism if the rich countries will not abandon their shortsighted policy, which is influenced by greedy capitalist monopolies. The sound economic building of the small countries is therefore bound to strengthen peace and achieve a reasonable balance.

Under the studies currently being conducted in Egypt in order to determine the projects that Egypt will need in the next 5 years and in the light of prevalent thinking, the idea is to allocate part of Carter's budget plan to developing Sinai, part to renovating the dilapidated public utilities such as sewers, transportation, housing and hospitals, and a third part to basic production projects.

The idea of the project came into being when President as-Sadat met with members of the U.S. Congress during his recent trip to Camp David. The idea has been welcomed and considered worthy of study.

Several discussions were later held on various occasions with U S. congressmen who visited Egypt, with Vance and with former President Gerald Ford. Studies on this project will be submitted to President as-Sadat shortly.

Therefore, this major trip is expected and will take place.

MUSA SABRI LAUDS SAUDI ARABIA FOR PAYING COST OF PLANES

LD271319 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 22 Feb 79 p 3 LD

[Musa Sabri article: "Appreciated Stand by Saudi Arabia"]

[Text] There is much talk at gatherings and meetings about Saudi Arabia's stand.

I am not one of those who believe that Saudi Arabia's stand could be a barrier to good Saudi-Egyptian relations, for this is the natural course of relations between Saudi Arabia and Egypt. Also, events surrounding us all and our common stand in the face of Soviet intervention are bound to lead to even better relations between the two countries.

Saudi Arabia's recent decision to pay $525 million toward the cost of the U.S. fighter planes deal with Egypt was not surprising to me, since this was agreed on before. Amir Fahd conveyed this stand to [former People's Assembly speaker] Sayyid Mar'i when he met with him at his own request.

Saudi Arabia was not against Camp David, nor was it against peace as a means of solving our problems. The differences that arose were due to Saudi hastiness in issuing a statement on Camp David results before Egypt could explain to Saudi officials the facts of what happened and before President as-Sadat's return home, as well as to its subsequent "involvement" in the Baghdad conference. But I believe that subsequent events and Egypt's principled stands have convinced Saudi Arabia that Egypt has not changed and that it remains sincere in decisive situations.

Therefore, in the present circumstances in the area and particularly those affecting Egypt, Sudan, Saudi Arabia and the gulf states I can see no reason why there should not be further consultations between Egypt and Saudi Arabia. We would not like to think that Saudi leaders prefer to remain silent or are hesitant.

We also would not like to think that matters of destiny should be ignored or precluded from consultations and coordination.

Saudi Arabia's recent decision, or rather implementation of its decision to finance the planes deal with Egypt, is appreciated and calls for gratitude.

We look toward Cairo just as we look toward Riyadh in the sincere hope that there will be joint coordination in the face of what is confronting us both.

I also hope that certain Saudi leaders will shun the mercenary and hypocritical writers whose words could only be aimed at fishing in troubled waters of muddying clear water.

AL-AKHBAR: AL-QADHDHAFI CONCENTRATING FORCES ON BORDER

NC272231 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2200 GMT 27 Feb 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 27 February--The newspaper AL-AKHBAR reports in Wednesday's issue that Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi of Libya has issued orders to Libyan newspapers and radio to intensify their attacks on the Egyptian political leadership and to accuse it of attempting to attack Libyan territory.

The paper says that the Libyan colonel at the same time has ordered the concentration of large forces on the borders with Egypt and that he has had Egyptian residents and workers evacuated from some areas of Benghazi Province.

MAGAZINE REPORTS ON U.S. ARMS FOR ISRAEL

NC280839 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0755 GMT 28 Feb NC

[Text] Cairo, 28 February--Today's issue of the weekly magazine AKHIR SA'AH reports that three military experts, who accompanied U.S. Defense Secretary Harold Brown, stayed behind in Israel upon conclusion of Brown's recent visit.

The magazine affirms that these experts are currently studying, with the Israeli military, the list of sophisticated arms and equipment which Israel has asked for during the next 5 years, costing U.S. $7.5 billion.

The magazine adds that U.S. circles showed readiness to supply Israel with air-to-air M-9-L missiles. The U.S. defense secretary also promised to advance the delivery date of F-16 intercepter fighters following cancellation of the deal with Iran. Israel wishes to obtain 150 of these planes.

AS-SADAT APPOINTS OFFICIAL FOR PARTY AFFAIRS

NC280600 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2250 GMT 27 Feb 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 27 February--President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat, leader of the National Democratic Party, today issued a decree appointing Mansur Hasan as director of the president's office for the National Democratic Party affairs in addition to his position as official spokesman of the party and spokesman of the party Information Committee.

OIL MINISTER DISCUSSES OIL PRICES, CONSUMER-PRODUCER RELATIONS

JN271738 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 27 Feb 79 JN

[Text of 27 February statement to INA by Tayih 'Abd al-Karim, Revolution Command Council member and Iraqi oil minister; place not given--read by announcer]

[Text] The circumstances facing the international oil industry at present make one recall what happened in 1973, although the direct causes of the developments which took place in 1973 are different from today's. Nevertheless the crux of the problem is the same as it was 5 years ago. Iraq then officially announced its stand and views regarding the conditions of the international market on the basis of its historic and objective outlook regarding the unequal relations between the industrial and developing countries, including the oil-producing countries.

The crux of the problem was and still is the loopholes in the international economic system, which is inherited from the imperialist system, and the failure of this economic system to respond to international political developments, particularly the struggle by the Third World peoples to achieve political independence and freedom from economic subservience. Furthermore, the international economic system allowed the monopolies to make enormous profits at the expense of the producers and consumers. Proceeding from this objective view of the realities of international economic relations, Iraq called in 1973, as it calls today, for the need to work to place economic relations between the oil-producing and oil-consuming countries on fair and equitable bases so as to guarantee the stability and sound development of these relations and achieve the legitimate and equitable interests of everyone.

This cannot be achieved without providing the necessary and essential conditions, the most important of which is respect for the rights of people to independence and freedom from economic subservience as well as their right to develop their oil and other natural resources so as to promote their development and progress and to simultaneously contribute to achieving prosperity for all mankind. There is also the need to review the international distribution system in such a way that will guarantee for the developing countries their right to exercise full sovereignty over their natural resources and to receive fair prices for their exports of oil and other raw materials.

Within this framework, under normal conditions we have always opposed freezing oil prices and have called for adjusting these prices by fair ratios so as to maintain the purchasing power of oil revenues in the fact of international monetary inflation. We also oppose imposing extraordinary increases in these prices whenever extraordinary circumstances exist. This was the case in 1973 and is the case now.

The situation prevailing on the international oil market confirms the soundness of what Iraq advocated 5 years ago regarding the need to provide the necessary bases for building equitable economic relations between the industrial and developing countries. Furthermore, Iraq stresses that a sound stand under such extraordinary circumstances should not be based on taking advantage of these circumstances to obtain short-term gains and make extraordinary increases in the oil prices, because such short-term gains will undoubtedly eventually vanish as long as the essence of international economic relations remains as it is.

On the other hand, world imperialism and Zionism do not hesitate to exploit such increases by instigating the world public against the oil-producing countries and holding these countries responsible for the international economic and oil crises. This is done with the aim of pacifying the consuming countries, on the one hand, and of peddling their conspiratorial designs against the sovereignty and security of the peoples of the oil-producing countries, on the other. Meanwhile, world imperialism and Zionism are giving a free hand to the monopolies, speculators and intermediaries to raise the prices of the oil products and to obtain enormous profits at the expense of the legitimate interests of the oil producers and consumers. However, the oil-producing countries, regardless of what they do to maintain the stability of oil relations and price levels, will not be able under the present circumstances to prevent the rise of the prices of oil products on the consumer markets unless the governments of the industrial countries take effective measures to protect consumer interests by controlling the prices of the oil products and preventing the monopolies, intermediaries and speculators from taking advantage of these circumstances to make enormous profits at the expense of oil consumers and producers alike.

Nevertheless, the main problem will continue to exist and the possibility that such circumstances will repeat themselves will always exist unless the industrial countries work seriously and with goodwill to achieve honest and long-term cooperation with the developing countries, including the OPEC countries, so as to create a new international economic order that guarantees stability and justice in the economic, monetary and oil relations between the industrial and developing countries.

CULTURAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH INDIA

JN271654 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1630 GMT 27 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Feb--A cultural agreement for 1979-81 was signed between Iraq and India here today.

The agreement covers cooperation in the spheres of higher education, information, culture, arts and youth.

The agreement was signed for Iraq by Dr 'Adil Shakir 'Abd ar-Razzaq, director general of the Cultural Relations Department of the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, and for India by (Bi Ki Thapar), director general of antiquities.

Dr 'Abd ar-Razzaq and (Bi Ki Thapar) exchanged speeches in which they reviewed bilateral relations and expressed their optimism over the achievement of further cooperation in all fields between the two countries.

YOUTH COOPERATION PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH GDR

JN271825 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1720 GMT 27 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Feb--Iraq and the GDR signed here this evening a youth cooperation protocol for 1979-1980.

The protocol was signed for Iraq by Hashim Qadduri, under secretary of the Ministry of Youth, and for the GDR by (Hans Jaktov), director of youth affairs at the GDR Council of Ministers.

The protocol aims at strengthening relations of friendship between the GDR and Iraqi youth, at organizing the exchange of youth delegations between the two friendly countries and at becoming acquainted with youth activities in the two countries.

Agriculture, Irrigation

JN271827 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1805 GMT 27 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Feb--Iraq and the GDR signed here today special joint minutes on the meetings of the seventh session of the Iraqi-GDR joint subcommittee on agriculture and irrigation.

The special minutes were signed for Iraq by Khalid 'Abd al-Hamid, head of the Iraqi side on the committee, and for the GDR by (Horst Lether), head of the GDR side.

The joint minutes cover the expansion of cooperation between Iraq and the GDR in agriculture and irrigation in the mutual interests of both countries. The minutes also cover preparations for the meeting of the Iraqi-GDR committee's fourth session which is scheduled to be held in Berlin in April.

SYRIAN CIVIL AVIATION DELEGATION DEPARTS BAGHDAD

JN271827 Baghdad INA in English 1725 GMT 27 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, Feb 27, INA--A Syrian delegation led by Mr Ahmad 'Antar, director general of civil aviation today left here after attending meetings of civil aviation officials in Syria, Jordan and Iraq.

Mr 'Antar stated before departure that the meeting reached an agreement in principle on unifying work of the three countries organizations' technical committees and formation of a special technical committee to study possibility of unifying their activities.

DAILY WARNS U.S. ON MILITARY PRESENCE IN GULF AREA

JN270922 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0740 GMT 27 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Feb--ATH-THAWRAH today denounces U.S. efforts to send military forces to the Arab Gulf to safeguard what the United States termed as the flow of oil to it.

The paper describes these threats as a "desperate attempt" to discourage the peoples of the Third World and the Arab world in particular from intensifying their struggle to liquidate international linchpins, foremost among which are the oil monopolies.

The paper says that a military presence, which is visible in many area and especially the area of the Arab Gulf, cannot safeguard the flow of oil to the West.

ATH-THAWRAH advises the United States to refrain from blatantly interfering in the internal affairs of the region, which is one of the most dangerous areas of the world with regard to both strategic position and oil.

The paper asserts that an increase by the United States of its warships in the area will only lead to exacerbating the situation and setting the oil barrel on fire.

PLO'S QADDUMI, DELEGATION ARRIVE FOR TALKS

JN271221 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 27 Feb 79 OW

[Text] A PLO delegation led by Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, arrived in Amman from Damascus today on a 3-day visit to Jordan at the invitation of Hasan Ibrahim, minister of state for foreign affairs. Qaddumi will hold talks with the minister of state for foreign affairs and a number of officials. The PLO delegation includes: 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, official spokesman for the PLO and member of the Higher Executive Committee; Brig Gen 'Abd ar-Razzaq Yahya, assistant to the head of the Political Department; and Jawad 'Abd ar-Rahim and Ribhi Hallum from the PLO. The delegation was received at Ar-Ramtha by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hasan Ibrahim, the governor of Irbid, the chief of police in Irbid, the district officer for Ar-Ramtha District, and the director of the PLO office in Amman.

Talks Begin

JN271927 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 27 Feb 79 JN

[Text] A meeting was held at the Foreign Ministry today between the Jordanian delegation headed by Hasan Ibrahim, minister of state for foreign affairs, and the Palestinian delegation headed by Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department.

At the meeting a general preliminary review was made of the situation in the Middle East and the various activities undertaken by Jordan and the PLO on the Arab and international levels following the Baghdad summit conference.

The Jordanian and Palestinian sides clarified their concepts of future political action on the Arab and international levels. The two sides will resume their talks tomorrow.

YAR MINISTER ARRIVES WITH MESSAGE FOR KING HUSAYN

JN271836 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 27 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Muhammad Salim Basindwa, YAR information and culture minister, arrived in Amman this afternoon on a 1-day visit to Jordan. Basindwa stated that he is bringing a message to His Majesty King Husayn from his brother the YAR president on the latest developments in the border situation between the YAR and PDRY.

Basindwa added that he will explain the border situation to his majesty the king so that he can--because of his remarkable pan-Arab position in the Arab homeland--contribute to solving the current crisis and putting an end to Arab bloodshed. He further added he will discuss with Information Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah ways of bolstering cooperation between the two fraternal countries.

Basindwa is accompanied by Mujahid Abu Shawarib, deputy commander in chief of the YAR armed forces. Basindwa was welcomed by the information minister and the Yemeni charge d'affaires in Amman.

AL-AKHBAR COMMENTS ON OIL PRICES, U.S. STATEMENTS

JN271253 Amman AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 27 Feb 79 pp 1, 13 JN

[Editorial: "Oil Prices"]

[Text] Two U.S. secretaries, Secretary of Defense Harold Brown and Secretary of Energy James Schlesinger, have used strong and violent language in talking about oil interests. Harold Brown said that the United States is prepared to resort to all possible means, including the use of force, to defend what he termed the vital interests of the United States.

We would like to know that this violent language is not directed at the oil-producing states of the Middle East, for they have supplied the West with oil without fail and also increased their production to make up for the shortage resulting from the suspension in the flow of Iranian oil, despite the fact that an increase in production means an increase in monetary liquidity and in the surplus of cash. Moreover, these oil states have sought to keep the price of oil down, thus serving the interests and economy of the West.

If these states have failed in anything, it is in understanding the basic role which oil plays in the Middle East crisis and the ambitions it arouses, and consequently the great difficulties oil poses for the confrontation states and especially for the Palestinian people.

Oil was and still is a weapon that could be used in various ways to defend the interests of all the Arabs, be they oil producers or not. The common use of its benefits and investments to unify the Arab nation and activate its economies is a significant weapon that can be used to protect the entire nation.

We say this at a time when certain oil producing countries have begun to increase oil prices. If such a hike in oil prices is legitimate and can be borne by the industrial world on condition that it continues to obtain oil, the developing countries--and among them the Arab states which are not oil producers--view this increase as a new disaster that contributes widening the gap between the rich and poor and weakens their ability to stand fast.

The Arab nation must fortify itself against the increasing external threats. It is time that we should say that such a fortification is not achieved through words and slogans, for the entire nation must have an interest in defending its wealth as it has an interest in defending its territorial integrity.

ARAB LEAGUE ASKED TO DISCUSS TRANSFER OF EMBASSIES

JN271649 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 27 Feb 79 JN

[Excerpt] The Jordanian Government has asked the Arab League Secretariat to add a new item to the agenda of the next Arab League meeting. This item concerns the transfer of foreign embassies from Tel Aviv to occupied Jerusalem.

In its memorandum to the Arab League Secretariat on the subject, the Jordanian Government explained that the Israeli Government intends to oblige countries which have embassies in Israel to transfer them to occupied Jerusalem.

AL-ASAD RECEIVES PLO'S 'ARAFAT, DELEGATION

JN271235 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 27 Feb 79 JN

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat; Khalid al-Fahum, president of the Palestine National Council; Zuhayr Muhsin, head of the Military Department in the PLO Executive Committee; and Mahmud 'Abbas, member of the Fatah Central Committee, at 1230 today. They reviewed the situation in the Arab region, and especially matters related to the Palestinian cause. Yasir 'Arafat explained the results of his visit to Iran.

GREEK PRIME MINISTER ARRIVES, MAKES STATEMENT

JN271819 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 27 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Greek Prime Minister Konstandinos Karamanlis arrived in Damascus from Saudi Arabia at noon today at the head of a delegation on a 3-day official visit to Syria. Prime Minister Muhammad 'Ali al-Halabi was at the head of those who met him at the airport. Also present to welcome the Greek guest were the deputies to the prime minister, ministers and senior officials.

In a statement to the press at the airport, Karamanlis expressed his happiness at visiting Arab Syria. He said that he is looking forward with great interest to the talks he will hold with President al-Asad and Prime Minister al-Halabi. Karamanlis added that the reason for his visit is to discuss the best ways to develop relations between Syria and Greece. Karamanlis added that Syrian-Greek relations are excellent, but could be strengthened.

Al-Halabi-Karamanlis Meeting

JN271933 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 7 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Prime Minister Muhammad 'Ali al-Halabi and Greek Prime Minister Konstandinos Karamanlis held a short meeting this evening. The meeting was attended by Yeoryios Rallis, Greek minister of foreign affairs; Safwan Qudsi, minister of state and head of the honor escort; and Anastasios Petropoulos, Greek ambassador in Damascus. The SANA correspondent reports that official talks between the Syrian and Greek sides will begin at 1000 tomorrow, Wednesday.

Al-Asad Welcomes Karamanlis

JN280749 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 27 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Damascus--At 1900 today President Hafiz al-Asad received Greek Prime Minister Konstandinos Karamanlis, and welcomed him on his first visit to Syria. Karamanlis expressed his pleasure at visiting Syria--a visit he has long looked forward to. He also expressed his appreciation of the president and voiced his eagerness to exchange viewpoints on the Middle East situation. Karamanlis then explained the situation in Greece.

President Hafiz al-Asad, in turn, explained the situation in the Arab region and the obstacles created by the Camp David agreements on the path to achieving a just peace in the region, as well as the conditions these agreements contain that are meant to be imposed on the Arabs. The president said that the Security Council is now the only organ capable of constituting the common denominator in the search for a just peace.

The president asserted that a just peace cannot be achieved except through Israel's withdrawal from the Arab territories occupied in 1967, and the recognition of the Palestinian people's national rights as stipulated by UN resolutions and approved by the majority of world public opinion. President Hafiz al-Asad and Karamanlis agreed to continue their exchange of viewpoints in a meeting they will hold at 1230 tomorrow.

TISHRIN COMMENTS ON U.S. STRATEGY IN MIDEAST

JN261234 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 26 Feb 79 JN

[Excerpts] In a commentary on the strategic situation in the Middle East following the fall of the shah of Iran, TISHRIN writes:

The rulers of the United States consider the Middle East very important to what they term the national security of the United States and the vital interests of the West. The importance of the region for them springs from a number of factors which they reiterate on various occasions. Among these factors, for example, is oil which keeps the wheels of industry going, meets the demands of daily life in most of the Western countries, and brings fantastic profits to the oil monopolies. It is well-known that in the Middle East lies more than two-third of the known oil reserves of the capitalist world, and that the cost of extracting it is many times less than the cost of extracting it in the United States, for instance. Also, the strategic position of the region makes it the meeting point of three continents and gives it great importance in the balance of power between the two major military blocs of the world. Another factor is the political importance of the states of the region in the international sphere and in the countries of the Third World, which constitute more than one half of the countries of the world.

In the course of its commentary, the paper expounds on the role which the United States, as a major power, could have played in the Middle East problem, and explains how it resorted to deception and engineered the treacherous meetings of Camp David. TISHRIN adds: Washington's reliance on Israel and the shah's Iran, and its hostility to the Arab nationalist movement, which represents Arab aspirations for unity, progress, freedom and peace, has led to the dwindling of U.S. influence in the area and to a decline in U.S.-Arab relations in particular that has reached the level of severing diplomatic relations.

A new opportunity arose in the early seventies for the United States to improve its relations with the Arab states, an opportunity which the United States abused following the October liberation war which eventually led to the obstruction of efforts for a just peace, and to an offensive to exercise influence over the entire region. The results of this were the Camp David agreements. The United States misunderstood the opportunity that was available to it to carry out a positive role in the peace process, and exploited to the greatest extent the Arab states' good will and readiness to cooperate, for its own selfish interests and for Israel's expansionist interests which are in conflict with the national interests of the Arabs.

Referring to the methods to which the United States may resort in an attempt to subjugate Arab steadfastness in the face of its ambitions and Israeli expansionist ambitions in the area, the paper says: The United States today is confronting all the Arab states which rejected the Camp David agreements at the Baghdad summit conference, and is also confronting the Arab masses.

This jeopardizes all U.S. relations and interests in the region and places them in a risky position whose consequences no one can predict. Today, following the political defeat of the United States in the Arab arena, and following the eloquent lesson of Iran, the U.S. Government is trying to wave the big stick in the face of the region. There are loud whispers of the possibility of a U.S. military presence in the Middle East to safeguard the region's stability and oil supplies.

The paper concludes: It appears that the United States has a very weak memory and has forgotten that the age of gunboat diplomacy has gone, and that states which pursued such policies in the past have met with failure, have had their claws blunted, and their influence and presence have eclipsed. The paper also explains that no one is threatening the flow of oil to its traditional markets, and that the states of the region have no interest whatsoever in stopping the extraction and marketing of oil. The liberation of the Iranian people from the bloody and despotic regime with which the United States had set up an alliance does not mean that the region's stability has been shaken and that the flow of oil has stopped or will stop.

AL-BA'TH VIEWS U.S., UK ATTEMPTS IN MIDDLE EAST

JN271914 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 27 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Under the headline "The American Presence in the Area," AL-BA'TH says: All sayings and predictions have been transformed into fact. Before the collapse of the oppressive regime of the shah, the U.S. administration--so as to maintain and safeguard its interests--tried to create a complete military and political pact in the area under its own supervision. Now, after the collapse of the shah, the Americans believe that there is a vacuum in the area that must be filled. Therefore, the U.S. administration is trying to revive the idea of creating a military and political pact in the area. The U.S. Government has already contacted certain parties and has tried to convince them of threats jeopardizing their existence. It seems that the U.S. contacts have succeeded.

Despite the news blackout imposed on recent moves in our area, all indications are that the U.S. proposal to establish a military and political pact in the area has become a fait accompli. Moreover, it seems that the U.S. administration is not willing to be alone this time and has thus resorted to the experience of Britain. This implies that the current tour of Queen Elizabeth and the moves of her foreign secretary, David Owen, in the area fall within this framework. The British moves could even be considered to supplement Harold Brown's mission.

AL-BA'TH adds: The current moves in the area and other developments indicate that there is something being prepared. Any action will most probably try to abort the people's revolution in Iran and cordon off or hinder the unity steps between Syria and Iraq, because such unity will threaten all imperialist interests and upset all calculations and balances in the area. Any action will also probably attempt to explode the situation in Lebanon so as to cause the partitioning of Lebanon. The isolationist gangs which are collaborating with Israel have in fact already begun their moves. The U.S. administration will also try to fabricate inter-Arab conflicts. What is happening now between the two Yemens is only one phase of the imperialist design.

AL-BA'TH concludes: Those who have been following developments in our area since the capitulatory visit of As-Sadat to the occupied homeland will realize that the U.S. administration seems very serious this time about rearranging things in the area in such a way as to maintain its great interests. The enemies of the Arab nation have enough room to maneuver. Therefore, the U.S. administration will not only build a bridge of allies in the area, but will even resort to further steps if its interests are jeopardized.

ALGERIA

PRESIDENT BENDJEDID APPEALS TO YEMENS TO STOP FIGHTING

LD260204 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 25 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and secretary general of the FLN, has sent cables to Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih of the YAR and to 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party and president of the PDRY.

In his messages the president says in particular: We were taken aback by the news of the armed clash between the two parts of the one country and the one people in sister Yemen. Regardless of the circumstances and the reasons that have led to this regrettable act, Algeria, on principle, does not support the aggressor in any form, and it always stands by the attacked party.

In his cable, the president called on the two presidents to halt the fighting, for using violence and bloodshed, and to respect the frontiers and the sovereignty of each state over its territory, especially in these difficult circumstances facing the Arab nation when it is passing through a unique period of contradictions and divergencies and is being torn apart politically. And all of this is in addition to the deteriorating economic and social conditions which have made matters worse and which have rendered the Arab nation incapable of confronting the plans which seek to keep it in its bad state. The president stressed that such conflicts benefit only the enemy. He added: We were hoping that the 1972 clashes, which were followed by the unity talks, were the last of the acts of armed violence; but the news about the renewal of fighting, at the time hopes were rising regarding the success of the mediation of Kuwait and good offices of other brothers to bring nearer the countries of the region, and especially Saudi Arabia and the PDRY, has disappointed all hopes and has raised questions about the nature of the renewed clashes and their aims.

President Bendjedid added: In view of the political commitment I have observed in the policy of the PDRY toward the countries of the region and its stands in the Arab Front of Confrontation and Steadfastness, and in view of the wisdom and farsightedness we are accustomed to from our brothers the YAR officials, the sudden explosion of events is indicative of the presence of hidden hands working for the explosion of the situation between the two sisters, for the sowing of suspicion among the states of the region, and for the strengthening of the position of those working for imperialism and colonialism. We are saddened by the outbreak of fighting between brothers, as much as we were pleased to learn of the withdrawal of the Iranian forces from Oman, at this time in particular when there is a chance to shut the door forever in the face of anyone who permits himself to play the role of the gendarme of imperialism in the region. In conclusion, the president appealed to the officials of the two sister countries to put an end to this bloody conflict.

Abdelaziz Bouteflika, Political Bureau member and foreign minister, has sent similar cables to 'Abd al-Majid al-Asnaj and Salih Muti', the foreign ministers of the two Yemens.

PRC, SRV URGED TO SOLVE CONFLICT PEACEFULLY

LD250250 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 24 Feb 79 LD

[Text] The Foreign Ministry issued a statement this evening concerning the events which are currently taking place in Southeast Asia between the PRC and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman has declared that Algeria is very concerned about the events which are taking place at present in Southeast Asia where there is a confrontation between two friendly countries--the PRC and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. The traditional relations which bring our people together with the people of China and Vietnam--our long militant fraternity against imperialism and against all forms of domination and exploitation, our joint struggle for justice and progress and our attachment to the construction of a society which the Third World wants to be an instrument for the realization of a prosperous and harmonious development--naturally make us regret the fraticidal conflict, a conflict which will undoubtedly have effects that will cause harm not only to the interests of the two peoples but also to peace and security in that area.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman continued: Algeria, which adheres to the respect of the principles of which international peace and security are based, is convinced that this conflict between the PRC and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam cannot be solved by the force of arms, because in addition to the human and material losses which this conflict will inevitably cause, it harms these two countries which belong to the Third World. It hinders their economic and social development and it weakens the people's liberation movement. It promotes the plans of imperialism which will no doubt turn the situation to account in order to divide the peoples of the area and insure that its interests are safeguarded.

The Foreign Ministry statement also says that while Algeria regrets this situation which might expand to become a very dangerous international detriment to peace and security, it believes that it is necessary that a quick end should be put to this armed conflict, which can be solved by peaceful means. If political will is shown by both sides to solve this issue by negotiations, peace will undoubtedly prevail as a result of wisdom and reason.

The statement concludes that the supreme interest of the two fraternal peoples concerned calls on the PRC and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to proceed toward this road.

The secretary general of the Foreign Ministry today (?met) with the SRV ambassador to Algeria.

BENDJEDID URGES MAURITANIA TO NEGOTIATE WITH POLISARIO

LD250236 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 24 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Replying to the message of congratulations sent to him by Col Moustapha Ould Mohamed Saleck, president of the Military Committee for National Recovery and prime minister of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, on his election to the presidency of the republic, Mr Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and secretary general of the party has sent the following message to the Mauritanian head of state:

I thank you most warmly for the message of congratulations you were good enough to send me when I was elected to the presidency of the republic, and the warm wishes you expressed for the Algerian people. We were all the more attentive toward its contents since there are between our two countries no diplomatic relations, as these relations had been broken off at the initiative of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania. Your message is another gesture of friendship which is added to the sorrow deeply felt by the fraternal people of Mauritania following the death of President Boumediene and to the presence in Algeria of the Mauritanian delegation that insisted in sharing in the Algerian people's grief.

They bear witness to the fact--if this were necessary--that relations of brotherliness and neighborliness between Algeria and Mauritania are in the nature of things. Yet if these relations are not to be restrictive or encumbered with heavy burdens of injustice, they must respond to the national aspirations of the Saharan people, who have suffered only too much from the fate that has been reserved for them since 1975. Their national aspirations must be legitimately satisfied.

The continuance of the ties between our two countries and between our two peoples, together with the gravity and the dimensions of the problem to be solved, in that they affect peace in the whole Maghreb region, makes me feel impelled, Mr President, to call on your wisdom and determination to give a greater impetus to the negotiations started between yourselves and the POLISARIO front. These negotiations can become a meaningful part of the dynamism of peace you had the honor and merit of wanting to initiate. In fact, while numerous official statements of Mauritania raised the hope not only for the peoples of the region, but also on the international level, all the same it seems to me that in terms of facts nothing decisive has yet appeared in reply that corresponds to the historic initiative of the POLISARIO front to spontaneously decree a unilateral ceasefire with Mauritania. By taking that decision the POLISARIO front, which is fighting for the national independence of the Saharan people, wanted to manifest an act of faith in the new Mauritania and in its great people embodied, as is its conscience, in the Military Committee for National Recovery, which has been in office since July 1978 and over whose destiny you preside with such foresight.

And if the African community, together with international opinion, just appreciated this act of faith by the Saharan people, expressed by its legitimate representatives, it is evidently difficult for that same African and international community to believe that on the other side everything necessary is being done to satisfy the national aspirations of the Saharan people. In this respect, the privilege belongs unquestionably to you to adopt quite independently a role that will be registered by all the peoples in our area as a historic contribution to the founding of a just and lasting peace for the greater good of the African and Arab peoples. We have no doubt that your attachment to the noble ideals of the OAU charter and the principles of nonalinement will guide you in the just decision that is necessary and that depends exclusively on the affirmation of Mauritanian sovereignty.

Thus, President Bendjedid continues in his message, justice will simply be served through the lucidity of vision, the swiftness of decision and the concordance between statements of intention and actions. In any event, President Bendjedid concludes, Algeria (?places itself) to the limits of its means at your disposal to help in the realization of this undertaking of peace, to attempt with you, hand in hand with all the other peoples in the region, a fresh page in history made up of freedom, cooperation and social progress.

LIBYA

AL-QADHDHAFI, JABIR ATTEND MISSILE TESTS 25 FEB

LD252122 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1855 GMT 25 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli, 25 February--Brothers Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and Brig Gen Abu Bakr Yunir Jabir attended this morning the launching of volleys of missiles capable of crossing borders, carried out by our armed forces at the Al-Hamadah al-Hamra'. The volleys of missiles hit their designated targets, which were hundreds of kilometers away from the launching site, and destroyed them completely--something which confirms our armed forces' capability to use advanced weapons with high skill.

AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR ASKED TO EXPLAIN COOPERATION WITH ISRAEL

LD271638 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Text] The Libyan Foreign Secretariat has summoned the Austrian ambassador to ask him for a clarification regarding the reports about Austria's intention to manufacture a military aircraft in partnership with the Zionist racist enemy.

The Foreign Secretariat made clear to the Austrian ambassador the consequences to Arab-Austrian relations resulting from Austria's cooperation with the Zionist enemy.

AT-TURAYKI RETURNS FROM ETHIOPIA; COOPERATION DISCUSSED

LD272050 Tripoli JANA in English 1815 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli, February 27, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--Foreign Secretary Dr. 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki returned to Tripoli this afternoon after he led the Jamahiriyah's delegation to the foreign ministers' meetings of the 32nd regular session of the Organization of African Unity which opened in Nairobi lately.

Dr. at-Turayki also visited Ethiopia where he conducted talks with officials there on the reinforcement of relations between the two countries in all fields.

Our correspondent reported that the Libyan Arab-Ethiopian joint committee has recently met in Addis Ababa and agreed on founding joint ventures in the fields of agriculture, metallurgy, and sea transport.

The committee also drew up a programme of cultural and trade exchange between the two countries during 1979.

MOROCCO

MAURITANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES 27 FEB

LD272124 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Excerpts] The Mauritanian foreign minister, Ahmed Ould Abdallah, arrived at Sale-Rabat Airport this evening on a 24-hour official visit to Morocco.

In a statement to the press, the Mauritanian foreign minister stressed that his visit is in line with the periodic consultations which began between Morocco and Mauritania several months ago.

KING HASSAN RECEIVES BELGIAN FOREIGN MINISTER SIMONET

LD272203 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Text] King Hassan II received Belgian Foreign Minister Henri Simonet at the royal palace in Rabat today. Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation M'hamed Boucetta and the king's adviser, Ahmad Rida Ghdirah, also attended the meeting.

Before his meeting with the king, the Belgian foreign minister held a working session with the minister of state for foreign affairs and cooperation, M'hamed Boucetta, and discussed bilateral relations and means of strengthening exchanges between the two countries in all fields, stressing anew the friendly relations that exist between the two kingdoms.

SUDAN

PRESIDENT NUMAYRI PRESENTS MONTHLY ADDRESS 26 FEB

JN270755 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1750 GMT 26 Feb 79 JN

[Monthly address by President Numayri on 26 February to the people of Sudan]

[Excerpts] Free revolutionary brother citizens: I received in this month's mail a letter from an expatriate citizen working in a fraternal Arab country. His letter expressed pain, and its lines told the story of long suffering over what he reads in certain Arabic-language newspapers and hears over certain Arab radios. He says that news is published and broadcast about Sudan; the least of which can be said is that it is disturbing. There are articles which speak elaborately about the foreign military presence in Sudan.

There is detailed talk about the deterioration of the economic situation in Sudan. There is violent criticism of Sudan's domestic and foreign policy. There is talk on how the banners of freedom have fallen in Sudan; how genuine democracy has been lost; how Sudan's prisons are full of detainees; how essential and luxury goods are missing from the markets; how Sudan failed to do its duty toward its Arab nation and toward the Arab cause; and how Sudan linked its fate with the fate of others, thereby losing its own will and becoming incapable of speaking for itself--and all this under the slogan of integration and the integration conferences.

I tell the esteemed brother that your letter has come at a unique time, as if it complements other letters from other brothers within Sudan, including officials and even Arab brothers who have called on Sudan to defend itself. However, I always reply that Sudan is not a defendant in the dock and cannot be so to stand up and defend itself against lies, biases, prejudices and alliances of which we know their aims.

Sudan is the Sudan of achievements, action and thought and has done a great deal for the Arab nation and its national issue. Therefore, Sudan does not care what others say. I can even find an excuse for them. The Sudan they are talking about is the Sudan which is imagined by their sick, malicious psyches. They are hirelings and agents who are paid for plotting against Sudan. They are shedding crocodile tears over democracy in Sudan, while the people of Sudan know that democracy in Sudan has bypassed the phase of pseudoslogans and has become the democracy of practice, dialog and arbitration according to the will of the people represented in the people's representatives.

Then I would like to tell the esteemed expatriate brother in a fraternal Arab country which is fabricating lies against his country: Why fear talk which has been reiterated so much that those who are circulating it alone believe it? Why fear what certain Arabic-language newspapers are saying about a foreign military presence in Sudan? They specifically mean the Egyptian military presence in our country, and they say that tens of thousands of Egyptian soldiers are stationed in Wadi Sayyidna and Jabal al-Awliya' in eastern Sudan. I tell you we read this here in Khartoum and show no fear over it, but laugh at it. Your city, dear brother, is not, as you know, as big as New York, London or Paris.

Therefore, the talk about the presence of tens of thousands of Egyptian soldiers in Wadi Sayyidna and Jabal al-Awliya' is a laughable matter for your citizens. It is even ridiculed to them. It is an indication of the impotence of the sick imagination which is concocting these lies.

Then how do these Arabic-language newspapers view the presence of the Arab deterrent forces in Lebanon? Do they consider the Syrian military presence in Lebanon a Syrian colonization of Lebanon? Do they view the Saudi, Abu Dhabi, North Yemeni and Sudanese presence there an international colonization of Lebanon? Furthermore, how do they view the Iraqi and Moroccan military forces in the Golan Heights during and after the October War? Was this a pan-Arab task or foreign colonization of the fraternal Syrian land? How do they view the Sudanese forces stationed in Egypt in 1967 and afterwards and in 1973 and afterwards? Were they colonialist forces occupying Egyptian land or were they Arab forces operating within one Arab homeland? Then what about the Egyptian forces which were guarding the Libyan revolution in its first year and which trained the Libyan Army in Tripoli? Were these forces colonialist?

I tell the esteemed expatriate brother that when the Arabic-language newspapers speak about Sudan's deviation from its pan-Arab affiliation [words indistinct], I must mention here with bitterness that many Arab brethren do not realize the high price Sudan paid to assert its pan-Arab affiliation. This affiliation was not a mere slogan, but was a fact which Sudan asserted after long suffering which threatened its territorial integrity, displaced some of its people for sometime, and dragged it into a civil war which exhausted its resources and capabilities and the blood of its citizens.

Therefore, the talk about Sudan's deviation from its pan-Arab affiliation is the talk of trivial and petty people who do not appreciate the sacrifices of people. Sudan has been united, thereby achieving for the Arab nation a new formula in which Sudan's African affiliation does not contradict its Arab affiliation. Sudan's unity has achieved for the Arab nation an effective presence in the African Continent.

I tell the esteemed brother that while certain Arabic-language newspapers claim that Sudan has gone back on its support of the pan-Arab cause, the Sudanese people and the entire Arab nation are a witness to Sudan's effective role in supporting the pan-Arab cause. Sudan is a partner which takes the initiative in all confrontation battles with the usurping enemy and in all efforts to contain inter-Arab disputes.

Sudan took the initiative during the sad events in Jordan in 1977. It did not isolate or conceal itself in the halls of conferences. It did not defend the Palestinians by making speeches, raising slogans or issuing appeals. It was in the middle of the danger, fire and destruction working to lift the siege imposed on the Palestinian revolution and sacrificing to save the lives of the leaders of the Palestinian revolution. Sudan's president and ministers shuttled back and forth between Cairo and Amman to bring the Palestinian leaders safely from Amman.

This is the way Sudan was in its struggle. It took the initiative to struggle for the Arabism of Jerusalem, benefitting in this from its African affiliation. At the head of an African delegation, Sudan was able to win the support of the bastion of Catholicism in Rome for Jerusalem and the Arabism of Jerusalem.

They said what they said about Sudan when President as-Sadat visited Jerusalem in 1977, yet they know that Sudan takes into account evaluations and calculations which rise above vituperations and slogans. Sudan acted when the event had taken place and there was no way of avoiding it whatever one's opinion was regarding it.

Sudan said what should be (?said) when it ought to be said. Sudan defined its stand toward the event on the basis of its results and not on the basis of its form and method. Sudan has affirmed that it supports what was said during the Jersualem visit about the Palestianian state and total withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories.

We do not hesitate to voice our opinion [words indistinct]. We express our opinion frankly and do not fear censure regarding our beliefs based on the principles of our revolution, Arabism and Islam.

This was the first step taken by Sudan along a path (?which prevented) the total collapse of the unity of the Arab ranks during those circumstances. It was followed by other steps, for Sudan acted within the framework of the committee of Arab solidarity when it put forward its proposals for unifying the ranks and convening an Arab summit whose goals and objectives it defined. Sudan defined the role of the Arab summit in laying down a comprehensive Arab strategy for war and peace.

Sudan called at the time for the need to support the confrontation states without exception. Sudan called for an Arab concensus on this objective.

With the procrastination of some and the outbiddings of others, and indeed the refusal of some to cooperate with the committee because instructions from Moscow were to the contrary--and I shall not specify their names--time was passing and events were following in succession. International forces and conditions do not know the luxury of waiting.

Then followed the Camp David summit and the Camp David agreements. Sudan has had its say on these events. Sudan said that it is impossible for the Arab nation to subtract from the sources of its strength Egypt's size and influence in the conflict of destiny, be it one of peace or of war. Sudan then said that the agreements had taken a step forward toward peace but did not describe them as comprehensive or perfect, and referred in detail to their aspects of neglect and ambiguity.

There were those who read about us but did not read what we said. They were driven by their whims and hostility. They ignored the text but were content with the distorted part, turning a blind eye to our well-defined stand.

And I also say to the honorable brother, do you know the secret that lies behind your country's decision to withdraw its forces from Lebanon after an honorable period of service which lasted more than 2 years? Perhaps I declare this secret for the first time when I say to you that it is unacceptable and unreasonable that the Sudanese soldier should stand side by side alongside his brother in the same trench facing danger and siege, and at the same time the brother is falsely accusing his brother of conspiracy in his radio and press. It was totally unacceptable and unreasonable that the Sudanese soldier in Lebanon should listen to the Syrian radio and press attacking his country at a ti e when he was standing side by side alongside his Syrian brother in the same trench. When will they (?stop) these deliberate provocations which have cost us a great deal so that we can prevent our Sudanese soldiers from being provoked and from attacking their Syrian brothers?

If Syria has accounts to settle with quarters other than Sudan, Sudan has its grievances against sister Syria. Sudan has continually sought to cooperate with Syria, and indeed we have succeeded in cooperating with it, while it behaved toward us on the basis of considerations which do not concern us, and it adopted an unfriendly attitude toward us as a result of circumstances and conflicts to which we were not a party.

Thus Syria froze the work of the Sudanese-Syrian joint political committee in the wake of the second disengagement agreement in Sinai; and Syria retreated from the unified political command which brought us together after the Jerusalem visit.

If the reduction of the consumption of oil and the building up of oil reserves to face all eventualities tops the program of U.S. President Carter--and he is the president of the richest country in the world--we also must seek to achieve this goal, not by rationing oil but by increasing our storage capacity as a precaution. I had told you in a previous meeting of a plan to build new storage tanks in various parts of the country. This plan however required a similar but larger plan for transporting the oil.

It was therefore natural that our interest should be directed toward the oil pipeline which, as you know, is one of the longest pipelines in the world. The French petroleum company is giving technical assistance in developing the oil pipeline within the framework of two plans: The first is a short-term plan whose objective is to operate the pipeline with its maximum capacity of 650,000 tons a year, and the second is to increase the pipeline's efficiency by building two additional pumping stations so that the pipeline's capacity will total 1 million tons a year.

If we add to this further development of transport through railways, riverboats and land transport, then we shall soon be in a position, God willing, that will enable us to dispense with the temporary rationing of oil in the face of changing local and international circumstances.

Brother citizens, liberal revolutionaries: Talks were held last week in Freetown, Sierra Leone, where I met with brother Lt Col Mengistu Haile Mariam. Our talks ended in no agreement. I must talk to you openly about what happened at the Freetown summit because this is your right and my duty. Therefore, let us go back in time to the Libreville African summit held in Gabon in 1977 where the conferees formed a committee for mediation between Ethiopia and Sudan. The mediation committee then included Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo, Cameroon and Zaire. This mediation committee was formed following serious deterioration and tension in Sudanese-Ethiopian relations. The Eritrean situation was and remains the main reason behind this conflict. The mediation committee held its first meeting in Freetown in December 1977 at foreign minister level.

In that meeting Sudan stressed that there are no direct differences between Sudan and Ethiopia. However, Sudan made it crystal clear that repercussions of the Eritrean problem reflect seriously on Sudan's security and stability. Hence, Sudan called for reaching a political settlement to the Eritrean problem, particularly since this problem causes tension in our bilateral relations

Also in that meeting, Ethiopia agreed that the Eritrean problem reflects negatively on relations with Sudan; yet, it refused to let the OAU discuss the Eritrean problem, considering it a purely internal Ethiopian matter.

The mediation committee noted that Ethiopia and Sudan agreed, from different angles, that the Eritrean problem forms a base for lasting conflict between the two countries. The committee's resolutions further underlined that certain political conflicts in the area would influence relations between Sudan and Ethiopia. The committee recommended that the two countries should cooperate with the OAU in order to solve all pending problems. The mediation committee also condemned any foreign intervention in African affairs and called on the superpowers to avoid interfering in regional disputes.

We hoped that the Freetown summit would lead to beginning the search for a political settlement of the Eritrean problem in cooperation with Sudan, not as a direct side to the conflict but because Sudan is more or less affected by the whole situation. However, the recent important changes in the area resulted in serious changes in the Ethiopian stand, particularly after receiving military aid from the Soviet Union and Cuba to confront the developments in Ogaden. This led to a serious imbalance among the forces of this area. Hence, Ethiopia went back on its commitment to reach a political settlement to the conflict with Sudan.

The mediation committee held another meeting in Dar es Salaam in June 1978. Sudan reviewed the steps adopted to develop relations with Ethiopia. Among these steps was the decision to send back numbers of Ethiopian officers and soldiers who had fled to Sudan following the fighting in Eritrea. Sudan also decided to resume airlinks with Ethiopia and to stop all media campaigns between the two countries. Meanwhile, Ethiopia insisted on its stand and prevented some Sudanese living in Ethiopia from returning to their homeland.. Consequently, Ethiopia adopted a very hostile stand during the meeting in Dar es Salaam. Despite this stand, the mediation committee once again underlined its previous resolutions and called for convening a summit meeting between the two countries. Bilateral contacts between Khartoum and Addis Ababa as well as efforts by various African capitals led to [words indistinct].

I went to that meeting with an open mind and heart full of sincere intentions to restore relations to normal and further consolidate Ethiopian-Sudanese cooperation. I have believed and continue to believe that the bonds and relations between the two fraternal peoples transcend all differences. My meeting with brother Mengistu began and ended with a spirit of noble African amity and brotherhood, despite the differences which led to a lack of agreement between us. These differences concentrated on one main issue for which 6 hours of intensive dialog could not bring about an appropriate solution. This issue is of course the Eritrean problem.

While I was talking to brother Lieutenant Colonel Mengistu, I had in mind all superpowers which expressed their support for reaching a political settlement. I had in mind the support I received from the Soviet Union. I had in mind the support from the United States and the European countries as well as all [word indistinct] and Arab countries. I assured Lieutenant Colonel Mengistu that we were not suggesting a solution or expecting to reach a general framework. We were calling for a lasting settlement [words indistinct] and safeguards Sudan's stability [words indistinct]. Therefore, it was very natural that the meeting led to a lack of agreement. Despite all this, we will not close the doors to an understanding with fraternal Ethiopia and the fraternal Ethiopian people. We will not close the doors to the dialog. We will continue to look forward to building strong relations with fraternal Ethiopia.

On the current fighting between the YAR and the PDRY, I say that this aggression by the ruling regime in Aden against the YAR is only evidence that the ruling regime in Aden is not only isolated from the problems of our nation but is also helping the enemies of our nation and the enemies of Islam and Muslims. The ruling regime in Aden, as we remember, helped those who launched an aggression against the Arab people of Somalia and are still helping those who are trying to oppress and subjugate the Eritreans instead of beginning a dialog with them.

While condemning the new aggression by the ruling regime in Aden against the Arab people in the YAR, we call on the entire Arab nation to shoulder the responsibility of safeguarding its struggle against anyone who tried to squander its efforts and divert its ranks from our battle against the Zionist occupation of Arab land and the Zionist usurpation of Arab rights.

We in Sudan cannot remain neutral by supporting the aggression of the aggressors. We support the YAR people in their defense of their land, security and welfare with all our resources until right is restored to its rightful owners.

Brother citizens and revolutionaries: The issue of world peace is indivisible. The threat to peace in one part of the world might be the beginning of serious repercussions whose consequences cannot be speculated on from here. Sudan is anxiously following what is happening between China and Vietnam,which is a direct result of what had happened between Vietnam and Cambodia; hence, the world is facing uncalculated confrontations.

Out of our genuine membership in the nonalined movement, we believe the interests of all peoples are firmly tied to the world peace issue. Our contemporary world is launching fierce battles against hunger and the need for food, security and stability. Our contemporary world is struggling against racial discrimination and looking forward to establishing international relations controlled by justice and law. The peoples of our world see the new Sino-Vietnamese conflict as a serious threat to all our aspirations for peace, security, justice and stability.

Sudan underlines its membership in the international community and shoulders its international responsibilities; hence, it calls on the warring parties, the PRC, Vietnam and Cambodia to put an end to this conflict which could threaten world peace and security.

Brother citizens and revolutionaries: This was an open meeting where sincerity, clearness and good intentions prevailed. I wanted this meeting to be an extension of my promises to you. I greet you and thank you all.

FOREIGN MINISTRY STATEMENT CONDEMNS PDRY 'AGGRESSION'

JN271506 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1455 GMT 27 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Khartoum, 27 February--A statement issued by the Foreign Ministry here today denounces the attack launched by the PDRY against the YAR. The statement condemns the aggression against the YAR's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity.

The statement calls on all Arab states to shoulder their responsibility regarding these events. It also announces Sudan's support for convening an Arab League emergency meeting to discuss the explosive situation.

BEGIN TO LEAVE FOR WASHINGTON ON THURSDAY

TA272140 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 2137 GMT 27 Feb 79 TA

[Text] An urgent announcement which we have been requested to pass on from the government press office follows:

The prime minister's office stated this evening:

At the invitation of President Carter, who spoke with Prime Minister Menahem Begin over the telephone this evening, the prime minister will leave for the United States on Thursday morning for talks with President Carter.

Answering a question, the head of the prime minister's office said that in this evening's telephone conversation between President Carter and the prime minister, only the holding of personal talks between the U.S. President and the Israeli prime minister was discussed.

Egyptian Demands

TA280710 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 28 Feb 79 TA

[Text] The Cabinet is now convening in Jerusalem for a special meeting to discuss the prime minister's trip to Washington tomorrow for talks with President Carter.

Our political correspondent Shalom Qital reports that in the Camp David II talks it transpired that the Egyptians have again demanded that their liaison officers be stationed in the Gaza Strip when the autonomy is established. In previous contacts they had retracted this demand following Israel's objection. It also became clear that the Egyptians want to advance the establishment of the autonomy in the Gaza Strip if the establishment of autonomy in Judaea and Samaria is delayed.

FURTHER DETAILS REPORTED ON 27 FEB CABINET SESSION

TA271535 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1810 GMT 27 Feb 79 TA

[From the IDF Afternoon Newsreel]

[Excerpt] Here is our political correspondent Yosi 'Abadi with further details on the Cabinet meeting.

['Abadi] The two ministers who voted in favor of the prime minister's trip to the conference with Khalil participating were Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan and Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman. The Cabinet meeting opened with a very detailed report from the foreign minister on the talks at Camp David. Dayan was aided by the legal advisers, Professor Zamir and Dr Rosenne and reviewed in detail every stage in the deliberations and each proposal raised. Ministers viewed the report as very clear and unbiased.

In his report Dayan did not recommend that the prime minister go to the United States, but from the fact of his agreement to Carter's invitation it was understood that he supports the continuation of the talks.

It transpires from the report that Egyptian positions have become more extreme, especially on the issue of linkage between the Israeli-Egyptian agreement and the agreement in Judaea and Samaria. Khalil made demands for clear and explicit formulas which would determine the linkage within the peace agreement. There has also been no change in the Egyptian position on the issue of precedence.

The prime minister was the first to speak after the foreign minister completed his report. Mr Begin expressed the opinion that the Egyptian inflexibility leaves no room for holding a conference as Carter proposed.

Other ministers expressed the opinion that holding an untimely conference now might bring about a breakdown in the talks and a major deadlock in the negotiations. In their opinion, the rejection of the invitation will cause the Egyptians to back down and will make it clear to Egypt that they cannot continue to raise barriers in the negotiations.

As has been said, only Ministers Dayan and Weizman were of the opinion that despite the extremization of the Egyptian positions the talks should be continued.

In fact, the Cabinet arrived at the decision made today on Sunday. The report about Carter's intention to convene a summit with the participation of Dayan [as heard] and Khalil had reached Jerusalem at the end of last week. The foreign minister, who was in constant touch with the prime minister, informed him of Carter's intention and of the extremization of the Egyptian position.

In the deliberations held by the Cabinet on Sunday, most ministers opposed the prime minister's going, but it was decided to postpone the decision until the foreign minister returned. Dayan's report to the Cabinet today further convinced most of the ministers that there is no point in the trip.

The surprise in Jerusalem over President Carter's announcement stemmed from the nature of the announcement--through the media.

At the end of the meeting, government sources stressed that the foundation for the decision is substantive--it is the extremization in the Egyptian position that is preventing the continuation of the talks. In the opinion of these sources the ball is still in the Egyptian court.

As far as can be seen the next stage will be the clarification talks between Begin and Carter with the intention of convincing the United States of the justness of Israel's claims and arriving at a coordinated position.

For the time being the ministers' talks at Camp David will not continue.

As has been said, there are ministers in the Cabinet who believe that today's decision will cause the Egyptians to back down from their demands, however there are also ministers who assess that an extended deadlock in the negotiations might ensue.

PUBLIC POLL REVEALS ABSOLUTE REJECTION OF PLO

TA271228 Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew 27 Feb 79 p 6 TA

[Text] The decisive majority of the Israeli public is concerned about the rise to power of Khomeyni in Iran, absolutely rejects an Israeli agreement to the co-option of the PLO in the political talks about achieving a settlement in our region, and believes that there is a chance to reach a peace agreement with Egypt in "the near future." These are the outstanding findings of an information center public opinion poll conducted by the institutions for applied social research and communications near Hebrew University on 20-22 February, 1979.

Out of all the participants in the poll, which included a representative sample of the Jewish urban population, 30 percent said they are "very worried" or "worried" about Khomeyni's rise to power in Iran, in contrast with 20 percent who expressed the opposite position.

A clear-cut national concensus was found in replies to the question as to whether Israel should agree or object to co-opting the PLO in the political talks about the achievement of a settlement in our region: 81 percent expressed total opposition to such a possibility while 19 percent support such an Israeli move. Of those questioned 64 percent believe that lately the chances that a Palestinian state will be established in our region have "greatly increased" or "a little increased" while 36 percent do not see such a possibility. In view of the latest developments in the Middle East, a moderate majority of 53 percent believes that Israel should harden its political positions, whereas 32 percent support softening our political position and 15 percent believe there should be no change.

W. BANK NEWSMEN VOTE TO SET UP JOURNALISTS ASSOCIATION

TA251503 Jerusalem POST in English 25 Feb 79 p 2 TA

[Text] Some 130 West Bank journalists have voted to set up their own professional organization, separate from the Jordanian Journalists Association.

The vote on Friday caused a split in the editorial ranks of the East Jerusalem newspaper AL-QUDS, which published a denouncement of the new journalists organization yesterday.

Five senior members of the AL-QUDS editorial staff, who said they represented 15 of the paper's journalists, described the new association as unnecessary.

Spokesmen for the association said the refusal of some AL-QUDS staffers to join them indicated the pro-Jordanian sympathies of the newspaper, which has always claimed to be independent.

Previous attempts to set up an independent association on the West Bank have been opposed by the Jordanian Journalists Association.

The West Bank journalists who set up the association and elected a five-member board on Friday work for local newspapers and international news agencies.

The new organization does not include Arab journalists who work for the Israel Broadcasting Authority. But journalists from the Israeli funded and supervised AL-ANBA have been invited to join the new grouping.

FURTHER SETTLEMENT PLANNED FOR 'ARAVA REGION

TA271217 Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew 27 Feb 79 p 6 TA

[Article by Eli Alon]

[Text] A plan for further settlement in the 'Arava region has been worked out in the Agriculture Ministry. The plan speaks of building six additional settlements in the southern 'Arava with an investment of 600 million Israeli pounds. The plan further states that in order to strengthen the new settlements the regional water sources and employment opportunities will be developed. According to assessments the population of the southern 'Arava will consist of about 5,000 persons in 6 years as against the present 1,000.

YEAR'S STATISTICS SHOW REDUCTION IN SECURITY DETAINEES

TA271215 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1035 GMT 27 Feb 79 TA

[Text] At the end of December 1978 there were 2,473 security detainees in prisons in Israel, 220 less than in January of that same year. There had been only 21 administrative arrests at the end of the year, in contrast to 53 at the end of 1977. This has been learned by the ITIM correspondent from military government sources.

In 1978 there was a drop of 22 percent from the previous year in the number of people accused in the territories. In Judaea and Samaria in 1978, there was a drop of 29 percent in the number of people accused of security offences, in comparison with 1977.

Out of all the judgments delivered by the military courts in the territories, 56 percent were only fines. Only 2 terrorist houses were destroyed and 1 house blocked off in 1978, all 3 in Judaea and Samaria. In 1971, 200 terrorists' houses in the territories were destroyed.

The ITIM correspondent comments that these numbers indicate a reduction in the level of hostile activity in the territories over the last year.

E. JERUSALEM ELECTRIC COMPANY SEEKS COMPENSATION

TA271236 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 27 Feb 79 p 3 TA

[Article by Yehuda Litani]

[Text] The East Jerusalem ("Jordanian") electric company demands a sum of over 200 million Israeli pounds from the Israeli Electric Company as compensation for the loss of its concession, network and installations in the East Jerusalem Jewish neighborhoods and the Israeli settlements in the West Bank, in Jerusalem's vicinity.

It was reported that the Israeli Electric Company is now examining the proposal of the Jordanian company. However, senior circles in the Israeli company claimed yesterday that the required sum was "extremely exaggerated."

Bethlehem Mayor Elyas Frayj, who is a member of the East Jerusalem company's board of directors told HA'ARETZ yesterday that the Jordanian Government will apparently soon announce its agreement to give half a million Jordanian dinars (about 30 million pounds) in aid to the company. The Jordanian Government demands, as a condition for the financial grant, the dismissal of the chairman of the East Jerusalem company's board of director, Ahmad (Zuhayr 'Afifi), and the dismissal of the company Director General (Sulayman Hasna). [paragraph continues]

The Jordanian Government further demands the dismissal of over 100 company workers on efficiency grounds. The major condition presented by the Jordanian Government for giving the financial grant is the cessation of electricity supply to Jewish neighborhoods in East Jerusalem and to Israeli settlements in the West Bank.

It was reported yesterday that the company has announced that it cannot absorb the fuel price hike. It is to be feared that the Arab and Jewish residents of East Jerusalem will be sitting in darkness within a few weeks.

WEST BANK ARABS ORDERED NOT TO WORK FOR JEWS

TA271155 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 27 Feb 79 p 6 TA

[Article by Yosef Tzuri'el]

[Text] Arab residents of Judaea and Samaria, are ordered not to work in Jewish settlements in the region, since "those employed by Jews help them become well-established in the area and reduces the chance that Israel will withdraw from the region." This initiative was taken by members of several local councils who are aided by charity organizations in urban centers in Judaea and Samaria. A paradoxical situation has developed where, on the one hand, there is general opposition to Jewish settlement in Judaea and Samaria, and, on the other, Arab workers are employed in building new settlements and perform various services in existing settlements.

Arab laborers are told that when workers are scarce in the West Bank an Arab should prefer to be employed by an Arab, and that if, for various reasons, he does not find employment where he lives, it is preferable that he work in Israel.

FIVE INJURED IN EXPLOSION AT MAHANE YEHUDA

TA271412 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 27 Feb 79 TA

[Text] An explosive charge went off at noon in the Mahane Yehuda market in Jerusalem. Five persons were injured, one of them seriously. The explosion occurred in one of the market's alleys, in Heharuv Street. The merchants in the market reported that they had seen a man fleeing in a car with a Judaea and Samaria license number. The police set up roadblocks and caught the man in Ramat Eshkol. However, the assumption is that he heard the explosion and fled the site out of fear.

CLASH BETWEEN UN SOLDIERS, TERRORISTS REPORTED

TA280816 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 28 Feb 79 TA

[Text] Three terrorists were wounded in southern Lebanon in a collision with French soldiers from the UN force. This happened near the village of (Al-Kafr), about 9 km north of the Israeli border when the first soldiers of the Netherlands unit came to replace the French.

AHVAZ STUDENTS RETURN TO SCHOOL, CLASSES TO BEGIN

DC261150 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1826 GMT 25 Feb 79 DC

[Announcement from the Khomeyni Operations Staff in Ahvaz]

[Text] This is Ahvaz, the voice of the Iranian Islamic Revolution. In the name of God, congratulations to all struggling brother and sister students for carrying out the orders of the Islamic leader, Imam Khomeyni, concerning the opening of the universities and the beginning of classes. All brother and sister students are asked to gather in their universities as soon as possible in order to open the facilities. Units [vahedha] will be selected on Wednesday, 9 Esfand [28 February], and on Thursday, 10 Esfand [1 March]. Classes will begin on Saturday, 12 Esfand [3 March].

Appeal to Shiraz Students

DC261200 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1834 GMT 25 Feb 79 DC

[Text] Students of the Shiraz professional training center are requested to come on Tuesday, 8 Esfand [27 February] to the facilities of the center on (Sibuyeh) Boulevard.

KHOMEYNI DELIVERS SPEECH TO RELIGIOUS LEADERS 26 FEB

LD271424 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1709 GMT 26 Feb 79 LD

[Excerpts] Various groups of people, including a group of religious leaders, visited Imam Khomeyni yesterday. At one of these meetings, the leader of the Iranian Islamic revolution replied to a speech made by one of the religious leaders. This is what Imam Khomeyni said:

[Khomeyni--begin recording] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful: I thank you gentlemen who, I am told, have suffered intolerable hardships and crimes at the hands of the regime. I pray that the Almighty will bestow long life, benevolence and grace on you, the learned ulema and followers of the school of the imam of this time. You have exerted great efforts, and thanks to your instruction, you encouraged the national uprising. You, the religious leadership of Iran, gave the people guidance, and thanks to God your instruction proved effective and the Iranian people discreetly staged a monolithic uprising. (?Your efforts) brought us to this point.

It is going to be much more difficult from now on, however. They left behind a bewildered, defeated, [word indistinct], plundered country. They drove back our human forces and held them back from progress. They took away our treasures and took Iranian jewels abroad with them, leaving Iran a defeated and helpless country. Right now, wherever you look around the country, you will see that there is a need for years--long years--of activity if it is to be returned to the state it was in before the thieves struck.

Turning to the economy, the Iranian economy is totally defeated. The culture that existed was a colonialist culture. The army was a parasite guided by aliens. Everything remains in a state of ruin. You have inherited a devastated country that must be rebuilt through hard work by you and the other strata of this society. However, we do not expect nor should we expect miracles to happen, that everything can be done overnight.

We ought to join hands together, and you respectable gentlemen ought to preach to the people so that all the people can rebuild this country through their joint efforts. The government alone cannot do this, and no single group can achieve this, for the ruin is not such that [words indistinct]. Right now the situation is chaotic. From now on, we ought to take part in the rebuilding. All of you ought to speak out in the mosques and public places and draw the people's attention to the fact that right now everyone has a duty to participate in this rebuilding; everyone must participate to the extent of his capability. Right now our agriculture is in a shambles, and you ought to advise the people in the mosques and public circles. Send individuals to various parts of the country and inform the people to pay attention to agriculture so that our dependence on imports may be removed.

Now one ought to be patient so that things may be gradually rectified. There is an army that ought to be rebuilt. The country's agriculture is in need of rebuilding, and there are other difficulties, each of which needs time. All the government (?officials) come to me; the ministers come; Chief of the General Staff Qarani comes and others come. All of them see and realize their inability to achieve everything speedily. And they are right; They are not ignoring their duties; they are serious and they are busy day and night. But the situation is such that things could not be achieved (?with such speed). You ought to help each other. An example of help that you can give is this: When officials are appointed in the army garrisons or the police stations, you ought to support them and avoid creating more obstacles. There must not be a situation in which one government opposes another government and weakens it. You must give support. This government is now your own government. It is not like the previous governments; it is your own property and has originated in your own will and ought to be supported. You must not contradict everything that it does by doing something else against it. Similarly, when someone is appointed in the police or in the army garrisons, you should endorse this and not oppose it. You must encourage the people to endorse this, too, so that they may be able to take charge of their affairs to end this chaos. This is a disturbed country that needs your hard work if it is to be rebuilt; hard work by the ulema, and I may say through the hard work of all strata.

The ulema ought to say in the mosques that Islam is capable of being implemented. Had it not been practicable, we might then say that Almighty God was to blame for his provisions. Of course, Islam prevents corruption. If by saying that Islam cannot be enforced under the present conditions, it is meant that our cinemas, women's high fashion and obsenity should continue running, then of course, Islam opposes this. However, Islam agrees to all progress and advancement; Islam emerged for this very purpose of progress and advancement. These words that some people are now spreading ought to be rebutted by you so that they are not repeated. [end recording]

REPORTAGE ON EVENTS, INCIDENTS OF 27 FEBRUARY

Arrests in Dasht-e Mishan

LD271028 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0830 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Text] It has been reported from the Abadan news center that the Imam Khomeyni Operation Staff committee of Dasht-e Azadegan, formerly called Dasht-e Mishan, announced that the gendarmerie regiment commander of Dasht-e Azadegan, the deputy border chief of the area, the commander of the intelligence base and other persons were arrested by the revolution forces of Dasht-e Azadegan under the accusation of taking part in arson and killing several innocent individuals in the recent events in Dasht-e Azadegan. Those arrested were handed over to the Imam Khomeyni central committee in Ahvaz.

POLISARIO Representatives' Activities

LD271402 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Allow me to read to you a news report just handed to me. Two POLISARIO representatives, who arrived in Iran yesterday, met with His Great Eminence Ayatollah Khomeyni. These representatives today also met with Foreign Minister Dr Sanjabi. The POLISARIO representatives, noting that today is the third anniversary of the Western Sahara movement, congratulated the victory of Iran's revolution and asked that Iran recognize the Western Sahara republic. Foreign Minister Dr Sanjabi pointed out in reply that Iran's revolution will always support the world's independence-seeking and anticolonialist movements. Dr Sanjabi asked the POLISARIO representatives to place more detailed information regarding the POLISARIO movement at the disposal of the Iranian Government while extending their contacts with Iran.

Situation in Tabriz

LD271418 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Text] According to our correspondent's report from the Tabriz revolution committee, with the help of all the personnel of the air force, ground forces and the gendarmerie, and thanks to the efforts of the guardians and all the fighters, the city of Tabriz was peaceful last night, and a number of counterrevolutionaries were arrested and handed over to the authorized committees.

Behbehan Airbase

LD271434 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Text] According to PARS, the personnel of the Behbehan Airbase have once again denounced any antirevolutionary and unholy conspiracy by the previous regime's hirelings aimed at disrupting the foundations of the Iranian Armed Forces and at preventing them from taking any action, particularly by the air force, and strongly denied any rumors in this regard. The personnel of the Behbehan Airbase regard the circulation of incorrect statements in Behbehan and other regions as contrary to the Iranian Islamic revolution principles, and once again declare their readiness to carry out the orders of the leader of the revolution, Imam Khomeyni.

Sit-In at Sanandaj Mosque

LD271410 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Yesterday afternoon a group of officers, NCO's and soldiers of the Kurdestan 28th Division, while declaring that they have staged a sit in in the Sanandaj Mosque, issued a resolution in support of the gathering of military personnel at the Tehran industrial university. Those engaged in the sit in, while expressing their renewed support for the leaders of the Iranian revolution and the provisional government of Prime Minister Bazargan, demanded the formation of a revolutionary council at the garrison office, a complete purge from the garrison of antirevolutionary elements, freedom of expression and views in the garrisons and the dissolution of military tribunals.

Kurds Protest TV Interview

LD271216 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Following last night's television interview, in which a number of Kurds and Mr Sadeq Qotbzadeh, the supervisor of the National Iranian Radio and Television Organization, participated, a large group of our Kurdish compatriots from various parts of Kurdestan, in their contacts with the news service of the voice of the Iranian Islamic revolution, have declared that they not only do not regard the participants in the interview as their representatives, but regard them as the agents of the former regime who are trying in the present circumstances to present themselves as Kurdish representatives. In the view of these compatriots, who have telephoned the voice of revolution news service, these people could not be the true representatives of the people of Kurdestan.

In a contact with Mr Sadeq Qotbzadeh, the supervisor of the National Iranian Radio and Television Organization, made by the news service of the voice of the Iranian Islamic revolution, he declared that those who participated in the interview had merely expressed their personal views and that, naturally, the representatives of Kurdish compatriots are those who are supported by the majority of the people of Kurdestan.

Ayatollah Calls for Unity

DO271923 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1624 GMT 27 Feb 79 DO

[Summary] "This is Shiraz, radio of the Islamic revolution of Fars. Pay attention to an address to the brave Iranian nation by the exalted and struggling authority of the Shi'a, His Great Eminence Ayatollah Mahalati (Markezol'ali).

"In the name of the almighty, by virtue of the staunch will and glorious struggle of all classes of this righteous and brave nation, the anti-social and Peronist Phalavi regime has been brought to its knees. Thus a turning point has been established in the fighting history of the tormented nations of the world struggling against evil and despotism.

"In view of my social and religious duty and in order to reach final victory, I realize that I must draw the attention of all noble and honorable people of Iran to this point: For years the ruling capitalist system, in order to protect its interests, not only auctioned off the material wealth of the country, but also distorted the philosophic concepts of many civilians, soldiers and dear officers. This was done through the bitter teachings of capitalism and the premises of imperialistic and antisocial philosophy by using terror and oppression. Divisions were created between the army and the nation, between the intellectual, the cleric, the bazaar merchant and the student.

"Now, however, by the will of God and thanks to the historical struggle," the antisocial regime has been destroyed. It is incumbent on all social classes that they emphasize their Islamic and revolutionary principles in order to create a better social order free of corruption and capitalism. While insuring the punishment of those who offended "the rights of the nation through just trials, the people must reach out to one another," and avoid causing hatred and enmity of one class against another.

Since Iranian society is in the midst of a fundamental change, and with an eye to the geographic sensitivity of this country, "we definitely advocate an army with strength and of the people. The reason is that considering the social structure of Iran, only a popular and powerful army can guarantee the unity and cohesion of the country."

"While cleansing the army, gendarmerie and city police forces of the limited number of those who sold themselves out, protection must be provided for the majority of Muslim soldiers, NCO's and officers who have been with the nation since the first moments of the revolution. The hand of friendship must be extended to them in order to protect the Iranian revolution from the fires of revenge and hatred. I ask all soldiers, NCO's and officers, in face of the love of the Iranian people and in the presence of the glorious Koran and the progressive religion of Islam, to commit themselves to the service of the people and to the defense of the freedom and independence of the country.

"It is essential that all alert officers, intellectuals, learned clerics and exalted preachers recognize the necessity of order and discipline, and the observance of military discipline. In addition, they must familiarize the various military echelons to the extent possible with Islamic teachings, so that under the protection of an Islamic army not only will the borders of Iran be protected from the enemy, but with their help the remainder of the nations of Islam can be cleansed of the filthy enemy."

"Dated: 29 Rabi' ol Avval 1399, or 8 Esfand 1357 [27 February], Beha'oddin Mahalati."

NIOC Director's Statement

LD271926 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Iranian oil exports will start as of Monday, 5 March. This was announced this morning by Mr Nazih, NIOC managing director, at a meeting of NIOC employees of the Ahvaz and special oil services region in Ahvaz. According to a PARS report from Ahvaz, at this meeting Mr Nazih referred to the fact that the oil industry management is to be centred in Khuzestan. He said: On 5 March we will see the first shipload of oil exported from Khark Island since the victory of the revolution of the Iranian nation.

In his remarks, the NIOC managing director stressed the need for forming trade unions, adding that trade unions have a special importance in the world today and that trade unions should be formed on the basis of the existing regulations, or on regulations which are to be formulated. I believe, however, that in order to form these unions, we should for the moment have temporary coordinating councils to take the necessary action to prepare the ground for forming trade unions, he said.

With reference to a purge in the refining sector of the NIOC, Mr Nazih said: A large group of people will be dismissed this week. It would be better for managers who are under suspicion to resign of their own accord before they are dismissed, in the same way that a group of oil managers have resigned in Tehran to enable us to find competent individuals.

Referring to the Iranian nation's victory, he recalled the oil workers' heroism and struggle, saying: It should be recalled that with your strike, you made a great contribution to bringing the revolution to fruition, for you complemented the reality [as heard] of Ayatollah Khomeyni.

Continuing his remarks, the NIOC managing director said: Everyone wants to eradicate corruption. Now that we have succeeded, we must also realize that a more arduous period has begun and we must prevent the infiltration of elements with ill intentions. In continuing his remarks, Mr Nazih, pointing out that henceforth money will no longer be allowed to go into the pockets of individuals and firms who are the enemies of Iran, as was the case under the previous regime, said: We should be doing something to help us achieve the objective of oil nationalization. We have had two instances of ousting: The first was when the British were ousted, and the second was when those who infringed the public fund were ousted. You should know that the enemies of Iran will no longer have any share of oil. We will no longer give in to blackmail or allow blackmail.

Arrest in Sar Dasht

LD272101 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Text] It was learned today that Major Tajoddini, the commander of the gendarmerie battalion in Sar Dasht, has been arrested by national forces and handed over to the Reza'iyeh Revolution Committee. Major Tajoddini has been arrested on the charge of having killed eight innocent inhabitants of Sar Dasht in the course of the struggles waged by the people of this provincial city.

Demonstration in Bukan

LD272118 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Thousands of Bukan residents took part today in tumultuous demonstrations. While expressing their demands, they expressed their support for the Islamic revolution led by His Great Eminence the Ayatollah Khomeyni. A resolution issued toward the end of these demonstrations said: At this delicate time when the last roots of colonialism and exploitation are being completely withered, it is essential that national oppression be done away with forever, thanks to the just struggles of the Iranian nation and the shining Islamic government. During the rally, the talks between the delegation sent from Tehran and the representatives of the people of Kordestan were fully endorsed by the people of this provincial city.

New Industries, Mines Minister

LD272107 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Text] By order of the prime minister, Engineer Bazargan, Mr 'Ali Akbar Mo'in-far, minister of state for the plan and budget organization, has also been appointed to head the Ministry of Industries and Mines.

Interior Minister's Meetings

LD272055 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Text] According to a PARS dispatch, Sunnite and Shi'ite religious leaders and a number of university academics from Sistan and Baluchestan met with Mr Ahmad Sadr Haj Seyyed-Javadi, the interior minister, this morning. During the meeting the provinces' problems were the subject of discussions and an exchange of views.

Iranian Jewish Intellectuals' Letter

LD271909 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Text] A group of representatives of Iranian Jewry held a surprise meeting today with Mr Hani al-Hasan, the representative of the Palestinian revolution in Tehran. They handed him an open letter from the Society of Iranian Jewish Intellectuals to the PLO representative. Confirming the Palestinians' right to return to their country, Palestine, as voiced by the PLO, they called for bringing about conditions whereby Muslim, Jewish and Christian brothers could live together in that region with equality and brotherliness.

Our correspondent, Hasan Hafezi, reports that the meeting took place in the Iranian Prime Ministry at the initiative of the Society of Iranian Jewish Intellectuals. The aim behind it was to create understanding between Jews and Palestinians and to wipe out the fear engendered by the Zionists' negative propaganda against the Palestinians and against the Iranian revolution.

In their open letter, the Society of Iranian Jewish Intellectuals declared that the Israeli Government, thanks to the links which it had established since its inception with world imperialism and particularly with the United States and U.S. monopoly capital, created favorable conditions for the vicious exploitation of its people.

The society's members declared: We believe that without guaranteeing the lawful rights of the Palestinian people, without the return of the Palestinian people to the territory of their original homeland and without ending the era of homelessness and unsettledness, the people of this region will not see peace and tranquillity.

Toward the settlement of this problem, they declared: We believe that the issue can only be solved with direct, face-to-face negotiations between the representatives of the Arab, Jewish and Christian peoples in the region. The society's representatives looked forward to a day when the people of this region, whether Muslims, Jews or Christians, would live together in peace and friendship and without the shackles of exploitation and oppression, while the dark clouds of unfriendliness would give way to the bright sun of justice, freedom, peace and pleasantness.

The open letter from the Society of Iranian Jewish Intellectuals drew a distinction between Zionism, which came into existence a century ago as a reaction to the anti-Jewish conditions in Europe, and Judaism, which is a historic phenomenon born of its own environment. The letter pointed out that the support of the U.S. monopolies and British colonialism was not due to sympathy for Judaism; rather, their aim is the plunder of the resource treasures of the Middle East and the creation of bases from which to prevent the growth of freedom and to confront the establishment of national governments in the countries of this region.

The Society of Iranian Jewish Intellectuals also declared their pleasure over the victory of the great revolution of the struggling Iranian people under the leadership of the Imam Khomeyni, which brought about favorable conditions for linking the Iranian nation's strata with the liberation movements in other parts of the world, and which has made it possible to candidly express one's beliefs and views pertaining to political issues.

Entezam Interview on Situation

LD272015 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Text] In an interview this morning with domestic and foreign correspondents, Mr 'Abbas Amir Entezam, the deputy prime minister and government spokesman, said:

Several bills have been approved by the council of government and have been sent to the Revolution Council for final endorsement. One of these bills is connected with a partial exemption on payments for the consumption of water and electricity, which particularly affected the low-paid. He said that all the bills, after their endorsement, will be made public on 1 March.

Pertaining to such changes as that of the commander of the air force, he said: This government has just begun its work and has an unlimited backlog of work which must be done. We do not claim that everything we do is 100 percent correct. We should have time to carry out the work. He added: Counterrevolutionary individuals who do not wish to see this revolution stabilized have embarked on sabotage. The idea that the various institutions, factories and organizations should elect their heads is impossible--particularly in the army--and in none of the countries which we recognize as manifestations of genuine democracy is this allowed to happen.

Asked who the counterrevolutionaries are, the government spokesman said: Whether in Tehran or in the provincial cities, there are groups in existence which, by disseminating the idea in the factories, banks and various departments that the organizations concerned should elect their own heads, are commiting sabotage. Of course, the government has not worried about this and our revolution will move forward. Our request from the election councils, set up at various times, is that they inform us of the people they have put forward to be chosen as heads by giving their qualifications, attributes and past record, as these proposals will be heeded by the government.

As to the rumors that are rife in Kordestan Province, Mr Amir Entezam said: As far as I know, all the representatives of the people in Kordestan Province have said that they support and will support the Islamic revolution in Iran. Amir Entezam added: Every province has certain demands, and the people wish to realize their lawful demands as soon as possible. But the government, because of the many difficulties it is facing, should bear priorities in mind. He said: At present, the government's most important task is establishing calm, carrying out the referendum, setting up the constituent assembly, drawing up the new constitution and carrying out elections to the majlis. The people should cooperate with us, so that the problems may be overcome one after another.

One of the correspondents said: The statements issued by various committees in the name of the imam in certain circumstances cause discord; and the radio and television, too, have openly become a source of discord in our society. It is said on television that certain occasions--such as the 13th day after the Iranian new year, the Nawruz Festival, and flag day--should be deleted from school books; and this gives rise to anxiety among the people who would lose their traditions.

The government spokesman said: After the revolution, wherever a group of people considered themselves as interested in revolution and religion, they set up committees, which often rendered valuable services and carried out acts of self-sacrifice. There are also committees that do not receive their instructions from and are not affiliated with the central committee.

In order to solve these problems, a person was elected as director general of Iranian committees, whose instructions and views are acceptable to all the committees. And the committee which is active in deleting parts of school books is a committee which is responsible to itself. However, our aim is that all these committees may be covered by a single committee.

On the sale of oil to foreign countries, the government spokesman said: The ambassadors who have come to see the prime minister have expressed their interest that oil should flow and that their countries should utilize Iranian oil. The Iranian Government under no circumstances wishes to turn off the oil taps, but the new managing director of the oil company is currently carrying out studies, and then oil exports will be resumed.

Pertaining to the bonuses given and the holidays enjoyed by government employees on the occasion of the Nawruz Festival, Amir Entezam said: The council of government will soon make a definite decision in this respect and the result of this decision will be made public on 1 March.

Ilam Ayatollah on Unity

LD272137 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Following the publication of an item entitled "Autonomy in Kordestan" by the paper ETTELA'AT on Saturday, 24 February, the PARS correspondent in Ilam had an interview with His Great Eminence the Ayatollah 'Abdolrahman Heydari regarding the fact that the name of Ilam had been mentioned. The ayatollah said: These rumors are disseminated in order to sow discord within the organized ranks of the Iranian people, and to disrupt the unity of the Iranian people in their struggle against the satanical former regime and foreign interests. Such rumors have no basis in truth either in Kordestan or in any of the other places mentioned, particularly Ilam, and we strongly deny such rumors. We believe that in Ilam there is not even a single person who is inclined toward separatism or claims autonomy.

The people and the religious community of Ilam Province fully support the Islamic revolution, the illustrious leader of the revolution and the national government of Bazargan. We are united for the realization of the demands of the revolution and of the lawful, religious government of Mr Bazargan.

'Arafat Message to Sanjabi

LD272345 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2330 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Text] A responsible official from the PLO office in Tehran has told PARS that Hani al-Hasan, Yasir 'Arafat's political advisor and PLO representative in Tehran, has met Mr Karim Sanjabi, minister of foreign affairs, and handed him a message from Yasir 'Arafat. No explanations have so far been given in connection with the contents of this message.

TUDEH PARTY CC ISSUES DECLARATION ON REVOLUTION VICTORY

AU271507 East Berlin HORIZONT in German No 9/1979 p 11 AU

[Declaration of the Iranian Tudeh Party Central Committee, headlined: "The Need of the Hour: Vigilance, Combat Readiness, Unity of Action"]

[Text] Fellow citizens: On 10 and 11 February the unshakable forces of the Iranian people crushed one of the last desperate actions of the enemy and scored a historic victory.

We congratulate you on this from the bottom of our hearts.

The participants in the struggle for this historic victory were the working people of the cities and the countryside, the clergy and the militant intellectuals, the artisans and the national-minded capitalists and, in the lead, the heroic workers class of Iran. They have set a splendid example of unity and readiness to make sacrifices.

This historic struggle, the last phase of which has been underway for 1 year already, is assuming new proportions and becoming more and more intensive day by day. Its revolutionary content is deepening. It constitutes one of the most brilliant pages of the world history of revolutions. The Iranian revolution has crushed the rule of one of the world's worst criminal, despotic, predatory and murderous regimes. It has annihilated one of the most important bases of aggressive and predatory world imperialism.

Undoubtedly, the Iranian revolution will visibly alter the balance of forces in the world arena in future in favor of anti-imperialism. It has already dealt a serious blow to world imperialism.

This great, historic victory must be consolidated and made irreversible. This is the need of the hour. The imperialists, above all the United States, will certainly do all they can--as can be seen from the example of Chile--to deal a deadly blow to the young revolutionary Government of Iran at a suitable moment, with the aid of all its henchmen; namely, the wolves in sheep's clothing today. The vigilance, unshakable combat readiness and unity of action of all national and democratic forces of the people constitute a barrier that can foil all the enemy's machinations. It is necessary to avoid any divisive activity, and striving for a monopoly position in the anti-imperialist and democratic movement.

In this connection, the armed forces of the people, the heroic units of the air force and the other revolutionary units in the army, which with their exemplary readiness to make sacrifices have thwarted the enemy's machinations, bear a great responsibility. As they have done throughout the course of the bloody struggle, they must make every effort to preserve their combat readiness and unity. They must destroy the last centers of resistance of the traitors, and at the same time prepare themselves for peaceful work, for the establishment of revolutionary discipline and for the reconstruction of social life.

The wounded snake must be crushed as quickly as possible. The American advisers must be immediately expelled from our country. For over 30 years they have turned our homeland into an arena of the predatory and aggressive policy of U.S. imperialism. They were behind all the machinations against the national and democratic movement in our country's most recent history. As long as they remain in Iran, there is the danger of a putsch, as has been shown by 19 August 1953, 8 September 1978 and 10 February 1979.

The national and revolutionary provisional government must immediately annul all Iran's military treaties with the imperialist states. It must declare Iran a nonalined state.

The people demand of the national and revolutionary provisional government that the traitors, bandits and murderers who for many years arrested the fighters for independence and freedom, tortured them, killed them, crushed them in the streets under the tracks of their tanks and riddled them with submachinegun bullets, must, without exception, be removed from their command posts in the army, the gendarmerie and police, brought to trial and punished. Only by merciless punishment of the criminals will it be possible to prevent them from betraying the cause of the people anew.

The Imperial Guards, until the last moment the main support of the traitors, must be disbanded. One must not forget the wisdom of our great poet: Mercy for the sharp-toothed tiger is violence toward the sheep."

The release of criminals, traitors and bribed subjects is tantamount to opening the door for preparation of new intrigues.

The Iranian Tudeh Party fully and wholly supports the appeal of His Holiness the Ayatollah Khomeyni. The ayatollah has appealed to the people to be vigilant and combat ready, and to crush with full vigor any potential new conspiracy of the henchmen of the shah, or imperialism and of the bribed army leaders. Vigilance and combat readiness must be kept up for a long time to come. This is the most important task of the national and revolutionary provisional government at this hour.

The national and revolutionary provisional government is at the same time obliged to eliminate all traces of despotism, to unequivocally recognize all rights and freedoms that are laid down in the general human rights charter, and to fully guarantee them. All national and democratic forces of the people, including the Iranian Tudeh Party, will unreservedly support the national and revolutionary provisional government on this road.

The preparation of a plebiscite, the holding of elections for a constituent assembly and the working out of a new constitution must take place in conditions under which all political and social organizations of a national and progressive nature enjoy full freedom irrespective of their political and ideological positions.

The Iranian Tudeh Party hopes that the first government of the democratic Islamic republic will honor all the promises of his holiness, the Ayatollah Khomeyni, regarding individual and social freedoms. Tens of thousands of people have sacrificed their lives to attain these objectives. These freedoms must be implemented in the shortest possible time.

Another important task of the national and revolutionary provisional government and of the entire revolutionary movement in general is to get Iran's economy going again as quickly as possible, to repair the damage caused by the antinational policy of the treacherous shah regime and the domestic bandits in the entire economy, and to overcome in the shortest possible time all difficulties that have developed in everyday life during the people's heroic struggle and the workers' and employees' general strike. Certainly all people, all national and democratic political organizations, all fighters for freedom and independence will support the national and revolutionary provisional government's measures on this road.

In connection with overcoming these great difficulties, the people ask the national and revolutionary provisional government to bring the shah and his family, who are behind all the crimes of the past decades, to trial in absentia, and to sentence them, to expropriate the shah and his family and to confiscate for the benefit of the people all the possessions of this family of traitors and bandits both in the country and abroad.

The people ask the national and revolutionary provisional government to fetch the fugitive bandits back to Iran through international legal channels. They must be sentenced. The people also demand from the national and revolutionary provisional government that the remnants of the shah regime's gang of bandits be removed from all key positions of the state apparatus and the economy. They must be arrested. They must give back the assets they have stolen. These assets are needed for economic recovery and for improving the working people's life.

In implementing all these measures, the national and revolutionary provisional government can be certain of the people's support. With this backing, it can take the urgent political, social and economic measures to weed out despotism and colonialism.

The Iranian Tudeh Party is ready to sincerely support with all its energy all the actions and measures of the national and revolutionary provisional government to implement these pressing demands of the Iranian people.

[Signed] Central Committee of the Iranian Tudeh Party, 12 February 1979.

FOREIGN MINISTER SANJABI INTERVIEWED BY KUWAITI PAPERS

JN281051 Mamama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0950 GMT 28 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Tehran, 28 February--Dr Karim Sanjabi, foreign minister of the new Iranian Government, has declared that the revolution of Iranian leader Ayatollah Khomeyni has released suppressed feelings toward the Arabs and the Palestinians. These feelings were suppressed during the shah's reign, although the Palestinian people's issue touched the hearts of the Iranian people.

In an interview published today by the Kuwaiti newspapers AL-WATAN and AS-SIYASAH, Sanjabi said that the Iranian Government has not yet opened the file on the three Arab islands in the gulf, occupied by the Iranian forces during the shah's reign. These are Abu Musa and the greater and lesser Tunb Islands. He said his country will not interfere in other countries' domestic affairs.

Sanjabi explained that Iran will not interfere in Afghanistan's affairs, because the question of the Muslim rebels there is a domestic matter. Sanjabi expressed hope that Iranian-Arab relations will develop in the future. He said: "We hope that these relations will develop and grow. A basic change will be introduced to Iran's relations with the Arab states in general and with the gulf states in particular." Sanjabi declared that the Iranian Government will, at the appropriate time, take steps in this connection expressing the relationship of Islamic fraternity.

Sanjabi pointed out that no official contact has yet taken place with the Kuwaiti Government, although official contacts will take place in the future with Kuwait and other Arab gulf states.

NVOI PRAISES 'PEASANTS' ROLE IN REVOLUTION

TA272112 [Editorial Report] The Clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 21 February carries two commentaries. The first commentary criticizes the shah as a "traitor" and praises the struggle of the youth, peasants and workers. The people are called upon to "restore respect in Iran."

The second commentary is addressed to the peasants. At one point, it says: "The national Islamic revolution was directed at overthrowing the shah and freeing the peasants from the burden of heavy taxes and torture at the hands of murderers. The peasants struggle for victory side by side with their university brothers, as well as educators, students of religion, laborers and workers." The radio says that the shah and a group of Persians "who were agents of foreigners" are blamed for destroying Persian agriculture for personal gain. The people's revolution is praised and the unity of all forces is called for. "The revolution in Iran was achieved by the participation of all classes of people who were opposed to the monarchy. Many people have participated in this revolution and some have lost their lives. We must not forget that our former enemy, the officials of the shah's regime, as well as the American government will take advantage of the opportune moment to act against the Iranian people. The people have struggled, sacrificed and lost their lives. Today, they are witnessing victory. The monarchy has been overthrown," the radio says. In conclusion, the radio urges people of all classes to participate in the formation of the new government.

INDIA

DESAI OUTLINES POSITION ON CHINESE-VIETNAMESE CONFLICT

BK271546 Delhi ISI in English 1428 GMT 27 Feb 79 BK

[Text] Prime Minister Morarji Desai disclosed on February 27 that India had told Vietnam to withdraw her troops from Kampuchea reports PTI. India had said that Vietnam should not have sent her forces into Kampuchea, Desai said in a "Meet the Press" programme telecast by Doordarshan Centers.

Desai was asked whether India, which had condemned the Chinese aggression in Vietnam, wanted Vietnam also to withdraw from Kampuchea. "We have told them. Do you think that we have not done so? Everything cannot be shouted from housetops. We have said that they should not have sent their troops there," Desai replied.

Desai ruled out any changes in India's foreign policy in view of the developments in Vietnam and in India's immediate neighbourhood such as Iran.

Chinese action in Vietnam amounted to aggression, Desai said. India, he added, did not want to improve her relations with China by saying incorrect things. Truth would have to be stated. At the same time attempts to improve the relations would continue. When China desired an improvement in Sino-Indian relations, India had responded. Vajpayee had gone to China at their invitation. The talks had been useful but then the Chinese had taken action against Vietnam. Vajpayee had protested and returned home. "We did our duty," he said, adding that while doing its duty India did not want to quarrel with anyone.

Desai did not think that India's stand on the Chinese action in Vietnam would harm the relations with China. Denying that there was any link between the forthcoming visit of Soviet Prime Minister Kosygin and India's relations with China, Desai said that the Soviet leader's visit had been fixed last year. When Kosygin comes, all subjects would be discussed. The prime minister reiterated that India did not formulate its foreign policy at the bidding of any other country nor did this country tell others what foreign policy to follow.

Asked if the process of "Islamisation" in some neighbouring countries posed any danger to India's secular fabric, Desai said that no such danger existed. What happened inside a country was its own business. India should not say anything about it so long as it did not affect this country. He pointed out that India's relations with Iran continued to be good.

Further Statement on Kampuchea

BK281036 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1000 GMT 28 Feb 79 BK

[Text] The prime minister told the upper house of Parliament today that much before China attacked Vietnam, he had coveyed to the Vietnamese authorities that they should not have sent their forces to Kampuchea. Mr Morarji Desai said that his reference to this in his television interview yesterday was nothing new. When he conveyed this to Vietnam, the Parliament was not in session. He made it clear that in stating this he did not commit any breach of privilege of the house.

In the upper house today several opposition members objected to Prime Minister Mr Desai's statement at the TV interview that India has asked Vietnam to withdraw its forces from Kampuchea. The issue was raised by Mr Bhupesh Gupta, CPI [Communist Party of India], as soon as the house met this morning. He said this is the question of the privilege of the house and wanted to know why the prime minister has made such a statement outside Parliament.

The prime minister said that his reference to Kampuchea is in pursuance of the country's policy of nonalinement. We believe in applying this policy to all friends including those who differ from us. Mr Desai said he had also told Soviet friends that they were wrong in sending their army to Hungary and Czechoslovakia at that time. Mr Desai reiterated the government's stand that China is totally wrong in attacking Vietnam and that they must withdraw. He said there can be no comparison between China and Vietnam.

CPI-M CONDEMNS CHINESE AGGRESSION AGAINST SRV

BK261604 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 26 Feb 79 BK

[Text] The politburo of the Communist Party of India-Marxists, has called upon China to halt their war in Vietnam and withdraw all troops immediately. In a statement issued in New Delhi today, the Politburo has expressed appreciation of the government's stand on the Sino-Vietnamese conflict.

PHAM VAN DONG THANKS INDIA FOR ASSISTANCE TO SRV

BK261600 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 26 Feb 79 BK

[Text] Vietnamese Prime Minister Pham Van Dong has thanked India for its sympathy and assistance to the people of Vietnam. In an interview with AIR [ALL-INDIA RADIO] correspondent Harish Chandola in Hanoi, 4 days before the outbreak of hostility with China, Mr Dong expressed satisfaction at the level of cooperation between Vietnam and India in various fields.

DEFENSE MINISTER TELLS MILITARY TO MAINTAIN READINESS

BK261601 Hong Kong AFP in English 1530 GMT 26 Feb 79 BK

[Text] New Delhi, 26 Feb (AFP)--Deputy Prime Minister Jagjivan Ram today said that while India was committed to a policy of having cordial relations with all countries, "we have to keep ourselves prepared. If anybody dare attack us, we will give a fitting reply."

Mr Ram, who is also the minister for defence, told officers and soldiers of the Indian army somewhere in the western sector that India always stood and worked for peace. But at the same time there could not be any compromise so far as "our freedom, our honour and our way of life are concerned."

The defence minister said that it was also asked why a developing country like India should spend its money on defence when there was no threat. This was true, but defence expenditure, which was little over three per cent of the gross national product, was even less compared to what Pakistan and other countries spent on defence.

NEPAL

NEPAL-PRC BOUNDARY INSPECTION NOTES SIGNED

BK271610 Katmandu External Service in English 1450 GMT 27 Feb 79 BK

[Text] The notes of the first session of the Nepal-China boundary joint inspection committee were signed in Katmandu today. According to a press release of the Foreign Ministry, matters relating to the drawing of a new Nepal-China topographic boundary map and drafting the final document on the first joint inspection of the Nepal-China boundary were discussed during the session. The two sides [words indistinct] consultations in a sincere and friendly atmosphere reached complete agreement on these matters, the press release says.

The first session of the joint inspection committee was held in Katmandu from 10 January to 27 February 1979. The two sides also reviewed and expressed full satisfaction at the work done by the Nepal-China boundary joint inspection team, which undertook the joint inspection of the Nepal-China border from 31 July 1978 to mid-October 1978, the press release adds.

PAKISTAN

HAQ CBS INTERVIEW ON RELATIONS WITH U.S., BHUTTO

BK271502 Karachi DAWN in English 18 Feb 79 pp 1, 12 BK

[Text of President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq's 14 Feb interview with CBS TV team in Rawalpindi]

[Excerpt] Question: Recently, there was great emphasis on the restoration of Islamic law in Pakistan. In the past few days, an Islamic revolution has taken place in Iran with considerable violence and you have had trouble.... Do you see any parallels in Iran and Pakistan.

Answer: Parallels in the sense that we started off first. We have had our share. Iran is having its share now. When I say we have had our share, we had our share from March till July 1977. It was not as violent as it has been in Iran. The upheaval was not to that extent. I don't take the credit nor do I discredit the Iranians for that matter. But somehow or other, we were able to maintain law and order in this country.

Q: You feel you have already accomplished an Islamic revolution?

A: I think so. I think, in Pakistan, we are well on the road to Islamisation of laws.

Q: How does the change of government in Iran affect the strategic position of Pakistan and the presence of, especially, the Soviet Union on the flow of oil to the West?

A: It has a tremendous effect and I don't have to repeat Dr Kissinger's words. I think it is the result of the American policies in this region which we are now seeing. With all respect to the President of the United States and Mr Carter's administration, I am sorry to point it out that in this region their policy has been faulty. The American administration has not been able to realise what is going on. They have been too late in all instances. I can quote you Afghanistan, I can quote you Pakistan. We have seen it in Iran if you give any credit to Dr Kissinger. According to his words, the administration's policy in this region has been faulty and what we are seeing today, the blame, if you call it, had to be borne by the administration of the United States of America. Now what is going to be the effect of this? The shah of Iran was the only stable factor in the region, and I would say in Iran itself for thirty years. However, the people of that country--one must grant them that much respect--the people of that country decided to bring in another person and they have gone the way of Islamisation of laws. Good luck to them. This is their internal matter. I think we have no right to comment on that. But what it amounts to, that is what has to be seen. The policy of the American administration has shown that it was not the right policy.

I have personally spoken to some very responsible officers who came to see me during the last one year or so. I have been telling them that the American policy of creating pillars of strength in this region in Iran and New Delhi will not work. You have got to see which are the strategic places in this area and I said in this region--please don't get me wrong, I am not trying to say that Pakistan should be strengthened. Pakistan will look after itself and of course, if Pakistan gets help, Pakistan will be that much grateful. I am not saying this for the sake of Pakistan but I am saying it for the sake of a superpower which has no option but to take active interest in the affairs of the area where the freedom of the free world is at stake. I am talking from that point of view. Even in Afghanistan they have gone to such an extent but we have ignored. I think there has been a tremendous change in the whole of the geopolitical situation in this region by the mere change in Afghanistan but note has not been taken of it. Same is the situation in Iran and I think strategically it has had a tremendous impact in this region. I can foresee a decrease of American influence in this region whether it is intentional by the American administration or whether it is by accident. The fact still remains that the American influence in this region has received a tremendous set-back by the events in Afghanistan and by the events in Iran. Now, unless this point is taken note of I think it is likely to deteriorate further in that respect.

Q: You have placed a heavy burden on the United States. What has the United States specifically done wrong and now that events have taken place what should it do in future? What are you looking for from the United States?

A: You see, the United States is a superpower. Let us not forget this and so is the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union is our neighbour and we are trying to normalise our relations with them also. It is not for any other reason but because the United States of America has never been able to stand by its allies. They have always let them down. I give you an example, not Americans, but I give you an example of what happens on the other side. The Soviet Union entered into a treaty of friendship with India in 1971. The result was that Pakistan was halved, Bangladesh was created. The Soviet Union entered into a treaty of friendship with Ethiopia and see what has happened in Eritrea and what is happening in Somalia. The Soviet Union has entered into a treaty of friendship with Vietnam. Kampuchea has gone. The Soviet Union has now made a treaty of friendship with Afghanistan and I cannot say as to what is likely to happen.

Q: What do you suggest the United States should do now?

A: I would say that if the United States is a superpower, and it must recognise itself to be, then it must have an influence over the region. It must have influence over the free world and if there are patches of free world, or patches of freedom in this region, it must never allow them to be browbeaten by another party.

Q: You see, in an age when even governments of super power cannot freely interfere in the internal affairs of other countries, what specific concrete steps can the United States take now to preserve the strategic position in the Middle East?

A: Well the United States must see that the countries which they are backing are economically strong, are beyond the influence of any other power and thirdly when the chips are down then it must do what any other power in the world is doing.

Q: The United States backed Iran with economic aid to some extent and the results we have seen. It is being said that the United States intervenes on a wrong side, supports governments that don't have the support of people in a particular country. What can we do?

A: It is a true assessment. It is a fact. On the other hand, I have quoted the example of the Soviet Union. You give me one example where the United States has stood by its allies when the chips are down. I am just giving you an example. Look at Pakistan. We were the allies of the United States through a treaty. We were the allies according to the CENTO. In 1965 when the crunch came, Pakistan was left alone.

Q: If you were President Carter, what would you do?

A: Many things I can do. I can tell you this or that but it will be wrong on my part to suggest something for the President of the United States. He is an able man. He has been brought forth by an election. He has got practically the entire brains of the United States at his disposal. I pray for him to act like the president of a superpower. If I can convey that message, to act correctly, Dr Kissinger has a lot of advice. I think it should be suitable.

Q: We may return for a moment to Pakistan. This country was regarded in some quarters as unstable. Is that a fair judgment and what would you project for the future of Pakistan?

A: The assessment is correct. I would grant you that but we must compare Pakistan according to its size, according to its history and against the background of its existence. We have been here for 31 years now. We have been compared with our neighbouring countries--India, Iran, Saudi Arabia, gulf, some of the South Eastern countries. Now if you compare us with some of the countries, we are not so badly off. When you compare us with the most stable countries then of course we have been highly unstable for two reasons. One, for 31 years, we have been economically not so well entrenched and economy gives you the strength, political strength. Politically we have been most unstable. We have had successive governments, one being toppled by another. Take my example, a third case of a military coup in the 31 years history of Pakistan--not a good thing. So, whereas it is stated that Pakistan is an unstable country, I admit it but I must also say that this instability is not because of anything else but because of the short history--only 31-year span of life thus far.

Therefore it is wrong in my opinion to compare us with countries which have a longer history. I personally feel that now that we have decided for ourselves a correct direction as far as our moral and material values are concerned which means the road of Islam, I think this will bring a basic change because it is the fundamental character of a nation which counts. If we can individually correct ourselves we stand corrected as a nation. The next step is the political stability. Political stability can be brought if we can have fair elections, if we can have some political leaders who, apart from their own respect for the parties, can look after the interest of the country as such. This is the age of mediocracy. We can say that. So, therefore, we or anybody else, we are all mediocres. But whosoever it is who has to run going to stand for the next elections nor am I turning out to be a politician, I will not stay a day longer than is necessary, hold the elections, hand over the power to the political government and we hope that the next political government would be able to establish itself more stably than the previous governments. [sentence as published]

Q: You just mentioned elections a moment ago. You see now you are off yourself in the elections.

A: Not if I can help it, because I have done my job and not a very pleasant job. I tell you very frankly, being a soldier, being a military man myself, having carried out the coup I do not think it is very good for a country to have such a history that every time there is some trouble, the military has to come in....There must be that much of political stability. So I have done my job and I think there are many others who can perform better. I really, frankly speaking, see no role for myself in the future.

Q: As chief of the army staff, you intend to retire or continue?

A: No, I have already given myself an extension. My term finishes on 28th of February. I should have normally retired but in view of my political role in the present circumstances and the role of the Pakistan army in running of the country, I think I will not bring in another critical situation by retiring myself letting a point of succession to come in. So I have given myself an extension until such time we hold the elections and the new political party selects the new chief of army staff.

Q: Do you see a serious role in the future elected-government of Pakistan, in other words, will the army be completely...

A: No, sir, the army will withdraw totally. As it is, the army's involvement in running the country is not to that extent. [as published] It is that I am involved, a few of my corps commanders are involved but by and large, the army as such is not involved, but once we have the political government, then the army will totally withdraw. However, what I am thinking is because of the history of Pakistan--and as I said, this is the third time that it has had to intervene--for a guarantee for the future and also considering that the army is the only stable institution left in this country, I am thinking on the lines of giving the army or the armed forces as such, not purely the army, the armed forces, a constitutional role in the future of the country.

Q: Through a ...

A: No, bringing in a constitutional amendment in which the armed forces should have a constitutional role, that if the politicians are at logger heads or if the country is going down the drain or if elections are to be held, then the army comes in temporarily for a limited period of time, solves the problems, hands over to the political party and goes out.

Q: So you see, this is likely to be misinterpreted by civilian politicians.

A: It could be, but so far with some of the top politicians with whom I have considered this, they are in agreement with me that perhaps such a role could be beneficial, could avoid future military coup d'etat.

Q: Pakistan would be a government with civilians...

A: Yes, mind you, I will not do this arbitrarily. I will do so after full consultation with all the political parties.

Q: So, if we may continue, one of the elements of the instability of Pakistan is of course the trial of Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto and there are those also who believe no matter how the trial ends, whether with execution or whether with the commutation of sentence, there will be further trouble. Do you accept that?

A: No. I do not accept in the sense that Pakistanis by nature are very emotional, it is point No one.

They have also got a very short memory. They have also got a very long memory and I think all these three will play a part in the future as well. Mr Bhutto's case has been so much politicised by his own party and primarily by his own family that it looks that the impression that has been conveyed outside, I can grant them that much of intelligence, through their own effort through the money that they have received from some of their friends abroad is that Mr Bhutto's is a political trial. Actually it is a criminal case in which neither the government nor anybody else is involved. It is a pure and simple criminal case. Admittedly in this case it is the former prime minister of the country who is involved. Look at England. If there is a member of the Parliament who is involved-- surely you have heard of it--he is charged with the same thing. He is also accused of a conspiracy to murder. Here we have a former prime minister charged with conspiracy to murder. But in order to avoid the clutches of the law, they have politicised this and given this a colour as if it is a political battle between Ziaul Haq and Mr Bhutto, which it is not. It is purely and simply a criminal case and if the law is allowed to have its full course nothing will happen in Pakistan. I can assure you of this thing. There might be some trouble, yes. There are 73 million people in this country and Mr Bhutto has had over 20 years of political career and a part of it was a very prominent career, quite outstanding in many ways. He has created a lot of friends, allies outside, so therefore, he is well-known. Some take me as a military tyrant who has caught hold of Mr Bhutto, locked him up and is now trying to find ways and means of getting rid of him. It is not so. I know the people of Pakistan understand this much better than some of our friends abroad.

Q: This is the main point. You made the distinction between being a criminal trial, the man has been convicted, the conviction has been upheld by the Supreme Court but yet abroad at least it will be seen as a political vendetta. How do you cope with this?

A: You know, because this has been so projected, we have not been able to publicise our activities to that extent but Mr Bhutto and his party have been. So the colour which has been given to this trial abroad in many countries, including England and United States, is that this is a political case, which it is not. It is not a political case. It has been through a high court comprising a bench of five judges. It has now been through the Supreme Court starting with nine judges, ending with seven and it is now before the same court as a review case.

Q: So, the verdict of the Supreme Court satisfies enough the legal opinion that Mr Bhutto...

A: I am quite clear in that respect. In fact, I think it shows, as I have said a number of times before, it shows how independent the judiciary is. One of the accusations is that the court is rigged or the military administration has an influence on the court. We have nothing of the sort. If I wanted to influence, I would not have even let this case go before the court. But we have allowed the law of the land to take its normal course. I am sure those who have studied the judgment of the Supreme Court will see that the verdict is true.

Q: You know, many heads of government, including President Carter, President Brezhnev, Chairman Hua Guofeng have appealed to you for clemency in this matter, though all say that it is an internal matter for Pakistan. Do you think this is proper proposition of making appeals to you?

A: Frankly speaking, some of them are very good friends of Pakistan and I appreciate their gesture. I grant them that perhaps this case has been presented to them, as I have said a little while ago, as a political case. So, they are probably appealing for clemency for a political leader in Pakistan. But quite frankly, I think it is not in order. It is purely an internal matter of Pakistan. How would they react if I or somebody else ask somebody to let off so and so. It is not right. I think it is directly or indirectly an interference in the internal affairs of the country.

Q: This is my final assessment that Mr Bhutto's fate rests in your hands.

A: Technically, according to the law, if the Supreme Court upholds its judgment in the review case, then if Mr Bhutto himself or, if he does not, anybody on his behalf, whether his family member or anybody in Pakistan, appeals in his behalf, I will not keep this prerogative to myself. Whenever such an appeal comes, a couple of appeals are already with me, I am going to put it up before the panel of entire military hierarchy and I am going to put it before the total Cabinet. Let this be not a unilateral decision by me because people might think that I am against Mr Bhutto and I have involved him in this case therefore I am deciding. I am going to take this case of clemency and the appeal of Mr Bhutto applied on behalf of Mr Bhutto to the military hierarchy, the military council, get their verdict on the subject and also before the Cabinet. Let the Cabinet decide if and when the appeal comes, whether it should be accepted or rejected.

Q: And if the verdict is split and again comes to you?

A: No, we will decide by a majority. It is a very simple thing. The majority verdict is considered to be the correct verdict.

BHUTTO LAWYER ORDERED TO STOP 'MALIGNING' HIGH COURTS

BK271057 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 27 Feb 79 BK

[Text] The chief justice of the Supreme Court, Mr Justice S. Anwarul Haq, today told the defense counsel [for Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto] in the review petition in the Nawab Mohammad Ahmed Khan murder case that the maligning of the superior courts must stop and all those who appeared before them for trial must respect the judges. He made this observation when Mr Yahya Bakhtiar took up the plea of bias on the part of the trial court during the hearing of the review petition today.

Mr Justice Anwarul Haq said that for quite a long time the superior courts have been maligned, but it should not be repeated in future. He said after careful and minute consideration of the submissions of the defense counsel they had come to the conclusion that the trial does not stand vitiated. He pointed out that all the five judges of the trial court are men of integrity and principles and it would be dishonest to attribute bias to them or to make allegations of manipulation of record.

The special public prosecutor, Mr Ejaz Hussain Batalvi, drew the attention of the court about the manner in which the review petition is being argued and said it was unprecedented that the petition was being heard for the fourth day without being admitted.

The advocate on record, Mr M.A. Rahman, submitted before the court that the review petition was nullified and pointed out that the defense counsel, without ascertaining whether there was any error in the majority judgment, had told the court of his intention to file the review petition on the very day when only a short judgment had been pronounced and no copy by then had been made available to them.

He said the arguments being advanced by Mr Yahya Bakhtiar amounted to rehearing of the whole case. He requested the court that the defense counsel should be directed to formulate his propositions to show errors apparent in the face of the record instead of wasting the time of the court in reading pages after pages. He could not be allowed to reargue the case again.

The court observed that they had themselves been pointing this out to the defense counsel and hoped that this principle would be kept in mind when he resumes his arguments tomorrow.

The court again emphasized that the scope of review was limited and it was not proper to reargue the points already raised during the hearing of the appeal.

The defense counsel today made submissions on the testimonies of approvers Ghulam Hussain and Masud Mahmud besides the allegation of bias on the part of the chief justice of Lahore High Court. The hearing of the petition will resume tomorrow.

SRI LANKA

HAMEED: NONALINED AWAITING UNSC CONCLUSION ON INDOCHINA

BK251204 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 25 Feb 79 BK

[Text] Foreign Minister A.C.S. Hameed, who returned to Colombo yesterday after a tour of Middle East countries, is due to meet President Jayewardene sometime today to discuss the current situation in Indochina in relation to the nonalined movement.

In an exclusive interview with the SLBC [Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation], Mr Hameed said that Sri Lanka, as current chairman of the nonlined movement, is watching the deliberations at the United Nations Security Council and will then decide on the course of action to be taken in regard to the armed conflict between China and Vietnam. Several nonalined foreign ministers have been in touch with Mr Hameed on the current Indochina situation and the whole matter would be studied in detail before the nonalined movement commits itself to any particular course of action.

Asked whether Mr Hameed would lead a delegation to Beijing and Hanoi to try and settle the dispute, Mr Hameed replied that no decision had been taken on the matter as yet and that he would be able to say something within the next few days. Mr Hameed would, however, like to study the conclusion at the Security Council before taking any decision.

Dealing with events in Iran, Mr Hameed said that Tehran is returning to normal and that there is no cause for alarm regarding the safety of Sri Lankans employed in that country. However, he said that during the last few weeks when there were signs of a possible civil war, he had taken precautionary steps to insure the safety of Sri Lankans in that country.

The foreign minister said he is in touch with the new foreign minister in Tehran.

Following the nonalined Coordinating Bureau conference in Maputo, which was presided over by Mr Hameed, the foreign minister also visited Iraq and Libya, where he successfully negotiated the purchase of crude oil to meet Sri Lankan immediate requirements.